

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# AMERICAN POWs/MIAs IN SOUTHEAST ASIA (SUMMARY)

**PART 17 OF 26** 

FILE NUMBER: 100-457899

SUBJECT

POWIMIA

file number

100-457899 Vol7

1

OFFICIAL FORM NO. 10
MAY 1888 EDITION
BA FPMR (41 CFR) 101-11.8
UNITED STATES GO RNMENT

Memorandum

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-45)

NI DC FER 50 /28/2-2

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457899) 9/22/70 DATE: 110 socation (100-50739)(RUC) SUBJECT: COLIFAM IS-MISCELLANEOUS "REGISTRATION ACT Re Dallas airtel to Bu dated 8/20/70. On 9/17/70 of the National League of Families of Prisoners and Missing In Action In South East Asia. WDC advised that there group does not maintain a master list of POWs and MIAs except the one that has been widely published also advised that she has in local newspapers. received no further information about the adtivities of COLIFAM then has already been reported, but that if any information comes to her attention she will immediately contact WFO. For the information of the Alexandria division, on 8/19/70 United We Stand, Dallas, Texas, advised that he was in Vientiane, Laos during 12/69 and rode from the airport to the hotel with CORA WEISS. WEISS had just arrived from Hanoi. lso advised that wife of and two other women were also in Vietiane, Laos at this time and had breakfast 80/28/2-2 with WEISS. Mrs. present address is Va., and her home telephone is is employed at This information was supplied by Mrs. CC 94D Bureau Alexandria (100-373) (RM) REC-39 35 SEP 23 1970 476 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

ECEPT WHIRE SHOWN

avings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

WFO 100-50739

**ALEXANDRIA** 

601-112

VIRGINIA

Will interview Mrs. for any information she may have concerning her contact with CORA WEISS.

..NMENT

# Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (100-457899)

DATE: 9/18/70

FRO SAC, ALEXANI

SAC, ALEXANDRIA (100-373) -P-

SUBJECT:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM
(COLIFAM)

IS-MISCELLANEOUS REGISTRATION ACT

(00:New York)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINING
HETE IN A STOCK OF THE PROPERTY OF

pow/non Special ED-12812

Re WFO airtel to the Bureau, 7/3/70, and Alexandria airtel to the Bureau, 7/6/70.

The following offices of the headquarters for the casualty sections of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force were contacted by SA for the purpose of ascertaining those next or kin or row's and MIA's who have had personal contact with members of the captioned organization.

U. S. Marine Corps Headquarters, Casualty Section Navy Annex, Room 4316 Arlington, Virginia

be desired with the next of kin, it would be advisable to first contact the specific military office which is located opposite the names of the next of kin:

REC-39 100-457899-122

2 - Bureau

2 - New York (100-168469) (RM)

2 - Alexandria

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

EX-117,

EXCHAPT WHIRE SHOW

20 SEP 22 1970 67c

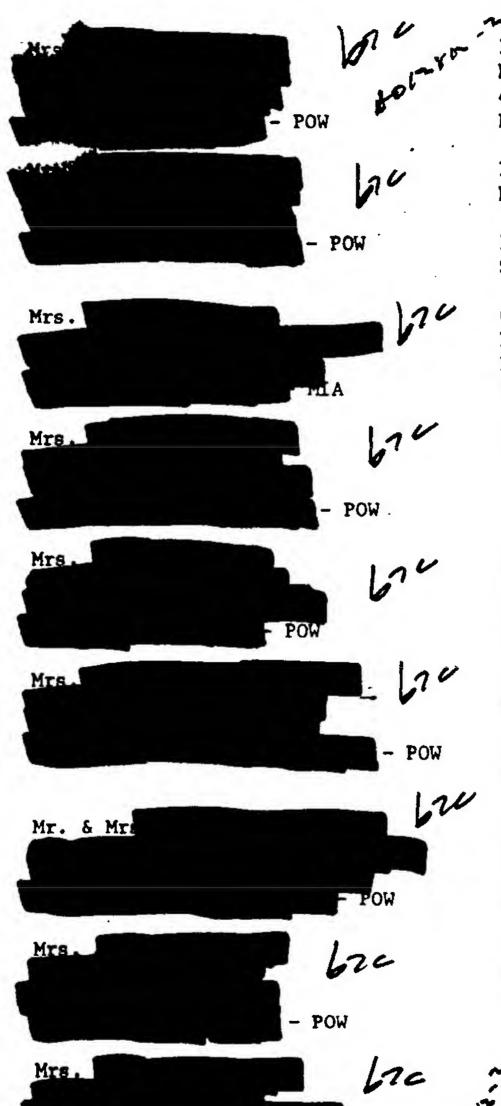
55SEP 29 197

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

go briting

S010 - 100

Next of kin of missing or captured Marines who have been communicated with by the Committee of Liaison:



Inspector-Instructor
Marine Corps Reserve Training Center
495 Summer Street
Boston, Mass. 02121

Inspector-Instructor
Naval and Marine Corps Reserve
Training Center
19th and Mission Streets
San Jose, Calif. 95112

Captain Faulkner Personal Affairs Officer MCAS, El Toro Santa Ana, Calif. 92709

Captain Faulkner -Same-

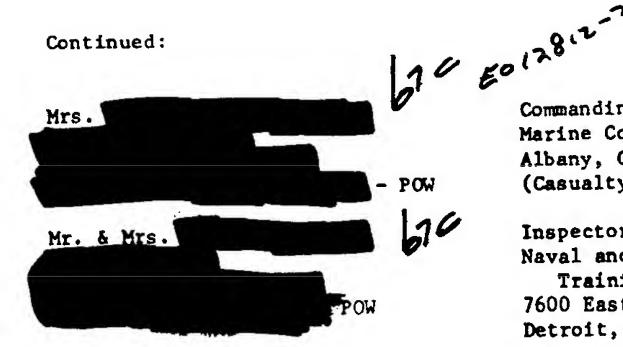
Commanding Officer
Marine Barracks
U. S. Naval Air Station
Jacksonville, Fla 32212

Inspector-Instructor
Naval and Marine Corps Reserve
Training Center
Foot of West Washington Street
East Peoria, Ill. 62633

Officer in Charge Marine Corps Recruiting Station 30th and Fort Streets Omaha, Neb. 68111

Commanding General
Marine Corps Air Station
Cherry Point, N. C. 28533
(Casualty Assistance Officer)

Commanding Officer ∫ MCAS, New River Jacksonville, N. C. 28540 (Casualty Assistance Officer) Continued:



Commanding Officer Marine Corps Supply Center Albany, Georgia 31704 (Casualty Assistance Officer)

Inspector-Instructor Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Training Center 7600 East Jefferson Avenue Detroit, Mich. 48214

# AIL 676 PER ED 12812-2

AX 100-373

620

Lt. Col.

U. S. Army Military Personnel, Missing & Captured Persons Unit, Casualty Division, located in Room GB-175, Forrestal Building, Washington, D. C., advised on 9/9/70, that there are no known next of kin of the 58 known Army POW's who might have been in contact with any members of COLIFAM. They explained that this was because all known Army POW's are being held in South Vietnam and are not, therefore, prisoners of the North Vietnamese but are captives of the Viet Cong which COLIFAM has not represented. The results of contact with Commander ROBERT S. BOROUGHS, U. S. Navy, Hoffman Building in Alexandria, Virginia, concerning Navy next of kin, were set forth in Alexandria airtel to Bureau dated 7/6/70.

Reference is made to Anchorage letter to Bureau, 7/20/70, and San Antonio letter to Bureau, 8/27/70, pertaining to the list of names of Air Force next of kin. Captain WALTER J. ELLIS, U. S. Navy, aide to Brigadier General DANIEL "CHAPPIE" JAMES, JR., U. S. Air Force Public Affairs Office, located in Room 2E800, in the Pentagon Building, Arlington, Virginia, advised that this office does not maintain a list of names of next of kin who have had personal contact with members of COLIFAM. He referred investigating Agent to the 1127th Field Activities Group at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. advised that his office would prepare a list of the next of kin of Air Force personnel who have had contact with COLIFAM after he could confer with Randolph advised that 17a Air Force Base in Texas. Sergeant of the 335 Air Force personnel who are POW's and MIA's, there has never been a list compiled of their next of kin who have had personal contact with members of COLIFAM.

In view of the specific Bureau instructions in this matter, Alexandria does not contemplate interviewing those next of kin as set out in San Antonio letter to Bureau 8/27/70. When the list of Air Force next of kin

620

who have had contact with COLIFAM is obtained, it will be forwarded to the Bureau and OO for their consideration is setting forth additional leads which are germane to this matter.

### <u>LEADS</u>

### **ALEXANDRIA**

# AT VIRGINIA

Will locate and interview Mrs.
, wife of

(MIA), whose home phone is and whose office phone is but who has been unavailable to date.

### AT FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA

Will recontact USAF 1127th Field Activities
Group through Sgt. to obtain amended
list of USAF next of kin who have had contact with COLIFAM
members.

Will attempt to locate 4/20/70, letter from CORA WEISS to Mrs.

Minneapolis, Minn., which enclosed two letter forms to be utilized when corresponding with her captive husband, USAF (Original letters were forwarded by to USAF Intelligence, Washington, D. C.) (Lead contained in Minneapolis airtel to Bureau and WFO, 7/8/70.)

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INV. STIGATION

All 67c PER ED 12812-2 INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD OFFICE OF ORIGIN SEP 2 2 1970 REPORTING OFFICE 7/10/70 - 9/3/70 NEW YORK COLUMBIA REPORT MADE BY TITLE OF CASE SA COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES CHARACTER OF CASE OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM) IS - MISCELLANEOUS; XX-117 REGISTRATION ACT New York airtel to Bureau. 6/9/70. References: 6/9/70, at San Diego. Report of SA Columbia airtel to Bureau, 172/70. Columbia airtel to Bureau, 7/18/70. San Antonio letter to Bureau, 8/27/70. ADMINISTRATIVE: Regarding the list of names set forth in San Antonio lette to Bureau, dated 8/27/70, the Columbia Division has interviewed only those relatives of actual prisoners of war. The relatives of those individuals listed as missing in action are not being interviewed, UACB. Leads were set forth in Columbia airtel to Bureau, dated 7/18/70. for wife of the Charlotte Division to interview Mrs. WIIE OI and Mrs. 00 ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED X NONE ACQUIT-RECOVERIES SAVINGS OVER ONE YEAR TYES FINES FUG. CONVIC AUTO DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW IAL AGENT N CHARGE APPROVED REC COPIES MADE: (100-457899) - Bureau (100-168469) New York 12 SEP 24 1970 RM) Savannah Bro (100-909) - Columbia Icc distroyed Deleted Copy Sent by Letter Dated 100910910 Per FOIPA Request No tation s Dissemination Record of Attached Report LATION CONT Agency MIL INFOR UNCLASS LF1 Request Recd. HEREIN IS ERE SHOWN Date Fwd. 0-1-10 How Fwd.

CO 100-909

**LEADS** 

SAVANNAH DIVISION

E0 12812-2

GEORGIA

Will interview Mrs.

telephone wife of USAF, in accordance with instructions in referenced New York letter dated 6/9/70.

**B**\* COVER PAGE

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# All boc PER ED 12812-2

Copy to:

Report of:

SEP 2 2 1970

Office:

COLUMBIA

Date:

Field Office File #: 100-909

Bureau File #: 100-457899

Title:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF

SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)

Character:

INTERNAL SECURITY - MISCELLANEOUS;

REGISTRATION ACT

Synopsis:

The following wives of POW's in North Vietnam were

interviewed:



Mrs. Wife of

Sumter, S. C.

Mrs. Wife of

Sumter, S. C.

Mrs. Wife of Simpsonville, S. C.

620

Also interviewed was Mrs.

S. C. mother of who is also a POW in North All of the above individuals have received

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

CO 100-909

correspondence from COLIFAM and, through the efforts of COLIFAM, have received one or more letters from their POW relatives. Photo copies of COLIFAM correspondence received from these individuals obtained and included in the report.

- RUC -

DETAILS:

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

	1	All be	mz E0 12812	July 22	July 22, 1970		
					- 620		
	the following		on:		furnished		
		is the with Air Force, ago.		tured in North	leton Li		
	In December, living in San on television just returned contacted Way motel in San cartoon draw; who, in queringed to	1969, her in 1969, her in 1969, her inches to inches the inches th	emen Detained brother-in-land, California, California, Ime. WEISS, WIES, WIES, WIES and the turned over them to Mricartoons, Image and he candons and he can	He observed Co.  The displayed co.  The displayed co.  The displayed co.  The displayed co.  The originals of the originals of the originals of the brother contract of the originals of the originals of the brother contract of the originals of the original originals or the original original originals or the original original originals or the original original original originals or the original original originals or the original ori	COLIFAN).  Was  HAVEISS  FAV. had lace  n television  lace at her  he four  to Ir.		
	given her the	e cartoon 62c	with the requi	North Vietnamese lest that she given	e them to er, 1969,		
	seen vietnam. Vietnam.	in Avracuse on Iss replied e prasoners	the occasion that she had but only No.	orth Vietnamese	North 27c		
ξ'	which Mrs. warned WRISS the carteons	that she switch had	to be pure publication to be pure publication to be pure pure pure pure pure pure pure pur	ropaganda. Mrs. tempt in any way y her husband, o	to publish		
<del>, .</del> .	Ers.	would see h	er.				
On	7/10/70 %		. C.	Columbia :			
Ьу	SA SA		670	Date dictated 7/1	6/70		
This di	action of contains and the con-	ommandations are see	relations of the FRI It is	the property of the FB1 and is	found to your pagency:		

This document contains neither recommendations not conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is laaned to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Beginning in January, 1970, Mrs. started to receive "propaganda" from COLIFAN through the mails. The first item she received was a letter dated January 20, 1970, from POCKE G. WREDELCEBON of the American Friends Service Committee, Inc., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

She then received an information sheet concerning COLIFAN, dated January, 1970. MEMBER OF SUBJECT ORGANIZATION

She also received a letter from MAGGIE GEDDES of COLIFAN dated January 27, 1970; and a letter from BARBARA WERSTER of COLIFAN dated June 14, 1970.

had received in the mail, and Xerox copies are attached to this interview form. She stated she had received a few more pieces of "propaganda" from COLIFAN through the mails; however, she has since thrown them away.

visited Mrs. In February, 1970, Mrs. Sumter, S. C. Mrs. is also the wife of a Prisoner of War (POW) being held by North They had read in the newspaper that STEWART MEACHAM Vietnam. of COLIFAN had recently brought back some letters from POWs. telephonically contacted MEACHAM in New York, and Mrs. Talso spoke with him on this occasion. MEACHAM Mrs. had letters coming and Mrs. said that both Mrs. from their husbands. 620

CORA WEISS telephonically contacted Mrs. in April, 1970, and requested that Mrs. not sue her as she had not published the cartoons drawn by WEISS also said she knew some pictures which had been were in the United States, and she parated by obtained them. Although Mrs. wanted to know how Mrs. actually had the paintings, she denied to WEISS that she actually has five photographic slides of the paintings which she received from Life Magazine. It was her understanding that the slides were made by one ROGER PIK in France; however, she had no knowledge how PIK came in contact with the paintings. WEISS then told Mrs. she had been to the Life Magazine office in New York, and the Lagazine could obtain had photo slides of the paintings, and Mrs. the slides from Life.

WEISS then asked Mrs. did not answer this question at first, and she asked WEISS if her, WIESS, son was going to be drafted. WEISS replied in the negative, stating that her son was only two years of age. Mrs. then told WEISS that her son will serve his country in some capacity some day. WEISS replied /2-that her son would do likewise. WEISS told Mrs. the closest the North Vietnamese came to committing structures against the POWS was to slap them. WEISS said the North Vietnamese told her this, and she believed them.

read in the newspaper that Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ of COLIFAN had returned to the United States in May, 1970, following a trip to North Vietnam. Sometime around the end of May, 1970, Mrs. telephonically contacted FERNANDEZ at COLIFAN headquarters in New York, and she asked him whether or not he had seen any of the POWs during his trip ble to North Vietnam. FERNANDEZ replied that he had not seen any POWs on the trip. He further told Mrs. that he manned to return to North Vietnam, and if she had any letters for her husband, she could send them to him and he would take them to North Vietnam. FERNANDEZ also said that if Mrs. did not Lie want to send the letters through him, she could send them direct, through Moscow. He said that mail goes to Moscow via airliner, from Moscow to China by train, and from China to Hanoi by train. FERNANDEZ advised Mrs. that he did not have any information concerning the POWs. he told Mrs. that if ever he or COLIFAN could be of any assistance to her bra she should contact them.

Mrs. has received a total of eight letters from her husband. Or these, seven letters and a Christmas card, came to her by way of COLIFAN. The first letter she received from her husband came to her direct, and it was mailed October 27, 1969.

has sent only one letter to her husband through COLIFAM, and this was about one month ago. She has mailed all other letters direct to her husband in Hanoi.

Mrs. described MEACHAN and FERNANDEZ as very cordial, and WEISS as "clever". At no time did these individuals threaten, harass or cajole her in any way.

How was a second

# All 676 PER EU 128122

She knows of no activity on the part of COLIFAM in South Carolina. She knows of no servicemen formerly residing in South Carolina who were contacted by means of COLIFAM while they were prisoners of war.

Mrs. advised that the following wives of pows in North Vietnam have also been contacted by COLIFAM:

Mrs.

(1) Mrs. S. C. (2) Mrs. S. C. , S. C.

Mrs. divised she would be willing to cooperate should her testimony be needed at a later date.

Photographic copies of the correspondence received by Mrs. from the American Friends Service Committee, Inc., and COLIFAN, are attached hereto:

6

AMERICAN FRIEND SERVICE COMMITTEE INC.

12

160 North Fifteenth Stree Philiadelphia, Pennsylvan Phone 215-563-9372

HENRY BEERITS

HENRY & CADBURY

BRONSON P. CLARM ENGLISH SCOTTER

January 20, 1979

- TEA

Dear Friend,

I am happy to report that during my visit to North Vietnam between December 26, 1969, and January 9, 1970, I was able to deliver to the representatives of the Vietny (Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with American People) about 500 letters that had been forwarded on to me by you and other family members of prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

Immediately prior to my departure from North Vietnam I was given 69 letters from 64 American prisoners of war, and in keeping with the North Vietnamese request these letters have been given to the

Committee of Lisison with Families of Service men detained in North Vietnam 365 W. 42nd Street New York, New York

for transmittal to the individual addressees. We at the American Friends Service Committee are pleased to have had a part in opening a channel for communication between the prisoners and their families and hope that this will continue.

You may be interested to know that during my visit to North Vietnam I was able to deliver a second contribution of open heart surgical equipment to the Bank Viet Dec Heapital in Emnoi in Receive with a long standing the property of both sides of a way.

is with inter the visit in Lagrant School as the Compilion (turne) robabilitation praises for sixting canaltics.

I have using my collection in Philodelphia to sail this letter to you prior to my return to the United States, so that you might know more promptive for that your letter has safely arrived in Henoi and was given to the appropriate Marth Flatnamese authorities with my specific request that it be delivered to the individual addresses to make the content of the conte

COLUMN TOWNS TOWNS TO SERVICE TO

for: Louis W. Schneider
Roses G. Fredrickson

RF/h

# CUMMITTEE OF LIAISON

# with Femilias of Servicemen Datained in North Vietner

365 West 42nd Street New York N.Y. 10036

January, 1970

and the second of the second o

Background I was the second

**Educi Taylor** Trud Young

It the course of the Vietnes war, links have been built between the people of Vietnam and Americans nittee (is fermetical)." who oppose the war through numerous meetings and conferences. These meetings have taken place is Europe, Canada, Cube and Boutheast Asia and have included people from both the Benocratic Republic of Vietnam (North Vietnam) and the National Liberation Front of SouthVietnes (now part of the Provisional Revolutionary Government).

> In these meetings the Vietnamese have always stressed a distinction between the U.S. government, whom they hold responsible for the policy of war, and the U.S.

people, whom they believe still value the goals upon which this country Wes founded--independence, justice, freedom and equality. This same distinction is evident to those Americans who have visited Borth Vietna and found that even though the nation is armed to defend itself, the people are encouraged by their government to believe that the American people are basically decent and humane. --- --

It is therefore understandable that the Vietnamese should indicate their basic confidence in the American people through the peace movement which they believe embodies American ideals, rather than the government. And in the past, the Vietnamese have asked the peace movement to receive U.S. servicemen -- primarily pilots whose planes were shot down -- when the North Vietnamese government has decided to release them. On three separate occasions -- Pebruary 1968, July 1968 and July 1969 -- the peace movement has gone to Manoi and returned with released servicemen; on 🐃 one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Fesh, Cambodia to receive three released MAP captives.

In addition, Americans visiting Manoi have frequently carried letters there at the request of families, and have brought back letters from servicemen. There have also been occasions when American peace activis have not prisoners and talked with them. -



ACM AND THE COLUMN AND ADMINISTRATION ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATION AND ADMINISTRATIO

# Functions of the Committee

A Committee of Linisen has now been established as an extension of these post efforts at the request of the Borth Vistnamese. As on post eccasions, the peace movement is responding to a request by the Vietnameso to mest a specific, immediate need and in net in any sense representing the government of North Vietness

The Committee will seek to facilitate communication between families in the U.S. and servicemen now imprisoned in North Vietnes. Besically th Committee will receive letters from servicemen and forward them through the Chastid mails, thereby decreasing, we hope, past problems in the receipt of such mail; We will also forward letters to Borth Vietnes at The request of relatives. Femilies are of source still free to such letters and percels directly but should note that the instructions on sailing previously famous by the State Department are broom. The corre address iss

And the second s Comp of Detention of W.S. Prote Captured in the B.R. Paris - Banck, Desocratic Republie of Vietness VIS POSCON, U.C.S. ..

The son, it it is consisted that the walling will be able to verify

\_\_\_ORMATION SHEET = page 2

requests for information about servicemen from families who are uncertain if their relatives are being held in North Vietnam. Requests should be submitted to the Committee, but there is no certainty when and if the North Vietnamese will be able to respond. The Committee will of course transmit immediately any information that it receives to the family.

### Clarification

Two clarifications are in order: first, it should be noted that the Committee will be dealing sciely with the government of North Vietnam and will not have any information on men held in South Vietnam by the Provisional Revolutionary Government. Nor will we be able to provide information at this time concerning men held in Laos or any other Sout east Asian country where U.S. troops and aircraft are presently involving combat missions.

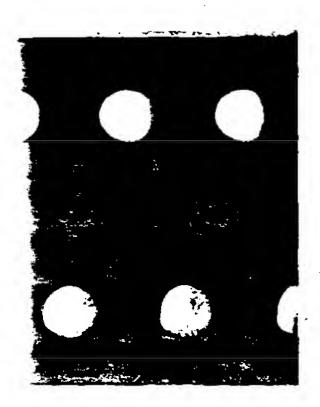
Secondly, the Committee will function entirely apart from the U.S. government. The U.S. government has frequently made it more difficult for the Vietnamese to be open to the concerns of American families by using the families' genuine desires as a propaganda ploy. The government has further attempted to provoke an angry response from the Vietnamese by publicizing unsubstantiated and inflammatory testimony from fliers already released: apparently, the government has decided to jeopardize existing communications and the possibility of future releases for the sake of propaganda aimed at prolonging the war. The North Vietnamese are also very aware that the U.S. government's claims of humanitarian concerns are contradicted by the well-commented policy of torture and brutality practiced on prisoners taken in the South by U.S. and Saigon troops.

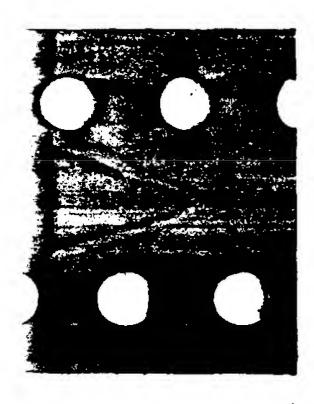
In addition to all these factors, there is the simple fact that the resolution of the fate of all the servicemen now held in North Vietnam waits ultimately upon a U.S. decision to end the war and withdraw all its forces and material.

### Who We Are

We firmly believe that the safe return of these men and the half million others that the U.S. maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and aboard naval vessels—who can also be viewed as prisoners, prisoner of their own government since many have been sent to fight in a war against the dictates of their own conscience—can only come with a decision on the part of the U.S. government to withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will continue our efforts to create popular pressure strong enough to force the government to withdraw.

We are active in a variety of organizations committed to ending the war: American Friends Service Committee, the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, Clergy and Laymen Concerned about Vietnam, Women Strike for Peace, The Conspiracy, and Women Against Daddy War-bucks. The Committee is supported by donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.





# COMMITTEE O. JAISON

# with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietr

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-149

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen: Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee (in formation):
Rennie Davis
Rev. Richard Fernandez
\*Maggie Goddes
\*Steve Halliwell
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Ethel Taylor
\*Barbara Webster
\*Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Mys. 626 12812-7

We assume that by this time you have received the letter from North Vietnam which was forwarded to you by members of our Committee. We are enclosing an Information Sheet which explains the work of the Committee of Liaison.

The North Vietnamese have said that prisoners will be able to receive and send one letter a month. As noted in the Information Sheet, you may send letters directly to North Vietnam (note the mail address and route). If you would like us to forward them for you, please enclose but do not affix stamps as we will be sending them on in packets. We are also enclosing a letter form which you might wish to use, whether you send it directly or through us. Prisoners can also receive one package, not over six pounds in weight, every other month.

To insure the safe and rapid delivery of mail from prisoners, the North Vietnamese will send periodic packets of letters through our office. The letters will then be dispatched immediately to the families to whom they are addressed.

The only way to secure the eventual release of prisoners is through the decision by the United States to end the war. But in the meantime we are pleased to be able to assist in the communication between men and their families. We hope to forward letters on to you again soon.

Sincerely,

Magg (e Geddes

# COMMITTEE OF . JEON

# with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietna.

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen: Dave Dollinger Cora Weiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

June 14, 1970

Richard J. Barnett
Rennie Davis
Madeline Duckles
Prof. Richard Falk
Rev. Richard Fernandez
Norman Fruchter
\*Maggie Geddes
Steve Halliwell
Prof. Donald Kalish
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Prof. Franz Schurmann
Ethel Taylor
\*Barbara Webster

\*staff

Trudi Young

Dear friend:

We are very glad to send you the enclosed letter from North Vietnam. It, along with 142 others, was brought to this country by Jean Palomdon, Nancy Rubin and Judy Claver -- anti-war activists who spent two weeks in North Vietnam.

The letters were slightly delayed in getting here because all the material they brought back with them, including the letters, was confiscated by the Canadian Customs upon their arrival in Montreal. This was totally unexpected and unprecedented; but they generated enough pressure so that everything was returned to them.

There will be another group going to North Vietnam at the end of this month. If you would like them to take a letter from you, please send it to us in the next week or so.

Sincerely,

Barbara Webstee

Barbara Webster

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1	All	by ASK	60 /2812.	- July	<b>22, 197</b> 0
				Dole	620
th	Mrs e following	information	on:		furnished
ca. Co. in	proce, who is the last of the	1970, when This ma: Linison Wit	red in Mort d nothing f she receive il was not s th Families M), but cam	n Vietnam on or row her humbard a letter and ent to her this of Servicement e direct to he	Christmas ough the Detained
Su: pr Er	lephone call mter, South isoner of the s. re roung to	carolina.  (Arolina.	ing held in tomen from t they would mrs.	forth Vietname to serve with the decide to serve	ke For Peace" em a letter d one.
Pe as wh sh as in wy	ntacted ETI nnsylvania ked TAYLOR ello" and ' e would lil ked what ki formation. omen Strike	TAYLOR of TAYLOR of to give here we are alrested to send of the total	also a memor husband a light". Mrs. lone salve to and Mrs. lid she was down the control of the c	message, and also also gave he called the three	in Philadelphi I. Mrs. Said tell nim Sold TAYLOR
wh Mr an de ou co	turned from the second inquired the that she	trip was Contellephonical whether she salve. The had become the trip to	Panuary, 197 PA WEISS, a ly contacte had seen YLOR replication ill in Pari Hanoi. She	O. Another of leso a member of ETHEL TAYLOR and the negation	in Philadelphia d if she had ive, pointing was unable to the salve
On7/	11/70	Late	620	Colum	oia 100-909 ork 100-168469
bySA			670	Date dictated	7/17/70

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is found to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.



المعروف

620

TAYLOR further told Mrs. that they were going to form a committee to serve as a channel through which Pows and their families could write to each other. TAYLOR said she would get in touch with Mrs. again at a later date.

Later, in January, 1970, Mrs. received a letter from TAYLOR dated January 21, 1970, a photographic copy of which is attached hereto.

no received another telephone call from Mrs. SANDY BAGLEY in December, 1969 and was informed by Mrs. BAGLEY that LOUIS W. SCHNEIDER and ROGER G.FREDRICKSON of the American Friends Service Committee, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa., were going to make a trip to Hanoi and were going to take some letters to the POWs. Mrs. thereupon wrote a letter to her husband, sealed it, and placed it in an envelop addressed to the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia. At the same time, wrote a letter to the American Friends Service Mrs. Committee pointing out that they should be helping the American POWS in North Vietnam rather than helping the North Vietnamese. In this letter, Mrs. was generally critical of the activities of the American Friends Service Committee, Inc.

In January, 1970, Mrs. received a letter from ROGER G. FREDRICKSON of the American Friends Service Committee, dated January 20, 1970, a photographic copy of which is attached hereto.

During the first part of April, 1970, Mrs.
was on vacation at Daytona Beach, Fla., when she received a
telephone call from an Air Force official at Randolph. Air
Force Base, Texas. This official wanted to know whether or
not Mrs. That had any objection to having her address
furnished to CORA WRISS of COLIFAN. Mrs.
would have no objection to this.

when she returned home on April 11, 1970, there was a letter in her mailbox from CORA WEISS and DAVE DELLINGER of COLIFAN. Enclosed with this letter was an information sheet regarding COLIFAN. This letter, dated April 7, 1970, advised Mrs. That COLIFAN had received official confirmation

670

/3

-

that her husband was one of the POWs being held by the North Vietnamese. It was also pointed out to Mrs. that a letter from her husband was en route to her. Inotographic copies of the letter from WEISS and DELLINGER and the information sheet on COLIFAM are attached hereto.

husband which was referred to in the letter from WEIES and DELLINGER.

In May, 1970, Mrs. telephonically contacted the office of STEWART MEACHAN of American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia. MEACHAN is also a member of COLIFAM. Mrs. talked with MEACHAN's secretary in MEACHAM's absence. Informed the secretary that she had not received her letter mentioned in the correspondence from WEISS and DELLINGER. The secretary replied that the packet of letters had not yet arrived, and sometimes the letters are slow in coming in.

COLIFAM which also had the name of Mrs.

Glenview, Illinois, on the envelop. Mrs.

contacted Mrs.

and learned that she is the mother of

U. S. Navy, also a POM in North Vietnam.

wrs.

has since moved to

telephone

On June 16, 1970, Mrs. Preceived a second letter from her husband, and this came to her by way of COLIFAN. In the same envelop, was a letter, dated June 14, 1970, from BARBARA WEBSTER of COLIFAN, a photographic copy of which is attached hereto.

During the first part of June, 1970, Nrs.

received a telephone call from in which she was advised that KENNETH KIRKPATRICK of Jeattle. Washington, and two professors were going to Hanoi, and send a letter to her husband through these individuals advised she had learned this information from STEWART MEACHAM. She said KIRKPATRICK is also connected with American Friends Service Committee. Mrs. sent a letter for her

670

14

# All bic PER ED 12812-2

husband to Mr. KIRKPATRICK, however, she had no knowledge whether it was actually delivered. She has had no further contact with COLIFAN.

Mrs. advised that ETHEL TAYLOR was cordial in their telephone contacts, and at no time did she threaten, harass or cajole her in any way.

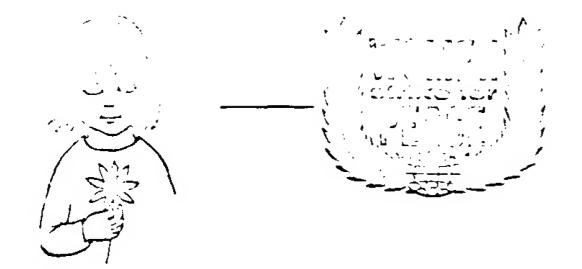
She knows of no activity on the part of CCLIFAN in South Carolina. She knows of no servicemen formerly residing in South Carolina who were contacted by means of CCLIFAN while they were prisoners of war.

Mrs. advised that the following wives of pows in North Vietnam have also been contacted by COLIFAN:

(1) Mrs. (2) Mrs. (3) Mrs.

Mrs. advised she would be willing to cooperate should her testimony be needed at a later date.

Attached hereto are photographic copies of the correspondence received by Mrs. from COLIFAN and the American Friends Service Committee:



PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19107 Telephone: 561-2636

January 21, 1970

Dear 7000 60 12812-2

I am sorry that it has taken me so long to write to you but I've been waiting until I could make definite suggestions to you and now I am pleased to say I can.

I regret very much that I did not bring back a letter for you but now an organization has been set up between the Peace Movement and Hanoi specifically for the purpose of forwarding mail and forwarding inquiries regarding prisoners from the immediate family.

The organization is the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam and is located at 365 W. 42nd Street, New York City, N.Y., 10036.

I am a member of this Committee. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any reason.

Cordially,

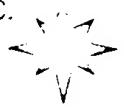
Mrs. William Taylor

Ethel Taylor

1505 Ashford Way Phila., Pa., 19151 MI 2-9078 (Area Code 215)

P.S. You will shortly receive information directly from the Committee of Liaison with details of its operation.

AMERICAN FRIENDU JURVICE COMMITTEE INC.



► Pintadelpte i, Pennsylvania 13 Phone 215-563-3372

HENRY BLERITS

BRONSON P. CLARK

January 20, 1970

Dear Friend,

I am happy to report that during my visit to North Vietnam between December 26, 1969, and January 9, 1970, I was able to deliver to the representatives of the Vietmy (Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with American People) about 500 letters that had been forwarded on to me by you and other family members of prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

Immediately prior to my departure from North Vietnam I was given 69 letters from 64. American prisoners of war, and in keeping with the North Vietnamese request these letters have been given to the

Committee of Liaison with Families of Service men detained in North Vietnam 365 W. 42nd Street New York, New York

for transmittal to the individual addressees. We at the American Friends Service Committee are pleased to have had a part in opening a channel for communication between the prisoners and their families and hope that this will continue.

You may be interested to know that during my visit to North Vietnam I was able to deliver a second contribution of open heart surgical equipment to the Benh Vien Viet-Duc Hospital in Hanoi in keeping with a long-standing Quaker concern for civilian sufferers on both sides of a war.

Following my departure from North Vietnam I traveled on to Quang Ngai in South Vietnam to visit the American Friends Service Committee (Quaker) rehabilitation project for civilian casualties.

I have asked my colleagues in Philadelphia to mail this letter to you prior to my return to the United States, so that you might know more promptly that your letter has safely arrived in Hanoi and was given to the appropriate North Vietnamese authorities with my specific request that it be delivered to the individual addressee.

for: Louis W. Schneider Roger G. Fredrickson

RF/n

# with Familias of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

CABLE ADDRESS:

All by ACR EU 12812-2

(212) 765-1490

April 7, 1970

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger Coro Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee

Richard J. Barnett
Rennie Davis
Modeline Duckles
Prof. Richard Falk
Rev. Richard Fernandez
Norman Fruchter
\*Maggie Geddes
Steve Halliwell
Prof. Donald Kalish
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Prof. Franz Schurmann
Etnel Taylor

\*staff

\*Barbara Webster

Trudi Young

Dear Nivo.

Our Committee has recently received official confirmation of 81 more servicemen being held in North Vietnam. By now you should have

is on this list. The North Vietnamese have now confirmed through the Committee of Liaison a total of 335 men being held.

This notification also means that a letter is en route from him. The enclosed release explains how mail is forwarded via our office. Because mail from Hanoi is very slow we cannot be sure when the letter will come, but we will forward it as soon as it arrives here.

We are very pleased to be able to perform this service and hope that you will feel free to be in touch with us should you have any questions.

At the same time, we are continuing to work towards the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Southeast Asia so that soon all families, American and Vietnamese, can be united again.

Sincerely,

Maurais Dave Dellinger

P.S. Kindly excuse the mimeographed letter, but there are many families to reach at the same time.

la c

18

# with Junifice of Corridomen Deteined in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10026

(212) -----1490

COLIAFAM

INFORMATION SHEET

o-chairment

Dave Dellinger Cara Weiss

reasurera

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee (in formation):
Rennie Davis
Rev. Richard Fornandez
"Maggie Goddes
"Steve Holliwell
Stewart Mescham
Prof. Boa Seitzman
Ethel Taylor
"Borbaro Webster

\*Truci Young

Functions of the Committee

The Committee of Lisison seeks to facilitate communication between servicemen imprisoned in North Vietnam and their families in the United States. The Committee receives letters from servicemen and forwards them to the families through the domestic mails. It also forwards letters to North Vietnam at the request of families. Families are, of course, still free to send letters directly but should not the correct address for both letters and packages:

Name of serviceman, serial number
Camp of Detention of U.S. Pilots Captured
in the D.R.V.
Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam
vis Moscow, U.S.S.R.

information removiting the status of

eris to live the tritutional n so wide numb

city Luis car to san chut tuin

L. Aller E. Secolica a luller

Captured servicemen may receive one letter a month and one package (not over six pounds in weight) every other about. The Committee does not forward packages. It is suggested that lot-recers sent to the Committee for forwarding be scaled and that stamps be en-photosed (not affixed) as letters are forwarded in packages.

the Committee is only able to be of help with respect to men who have been that come over North Vietnam.

he in the line of the North Vietner will beer from their relative

Backeround

Ine Committee of Lisison has been established in response to an initiative

En 12

19

ave their still at the expension to an especial there.

created by the North Vietnamese and is an extension of previous efforts. It is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam.

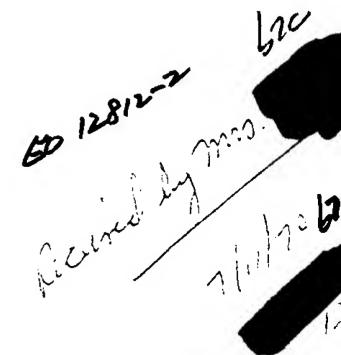
Since 1965 there have been a number of meetings between people of Vietnam (from both the North and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam) and Americans who oppose the war. On three separate occasions representatives of the American anti-war movement have gone to Hanoi and have returned with released servicemen. On one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to receive three American soldiers who were released by the National Liberation Front. Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters to captured servicemen at the request of their families and they have brought back letters when they have returned to the United States. On several occasions such visitors from the peace movement have met with captured pilots in Hanoi.

### The Committee

The Committee of Liaison believes that the safe return of U.S. servicement captured in North Vietnam and the half-million others that the United States maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and aboard haval vessels can only come with a decision on the just of the U.S. government to completely withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will also continue our efforts aimed at the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. armed forces and weapons.

As individuals Committee members are active in a variety of organizations and groups committed to ending the war: the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, The Conspiracy, Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam, U.S. Inter-religious Committee on Peace, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Newsreel, Women Against Daddy Warbucks, Lawyers Committee on Vietnam, and Women Strike for Peace.

The Committee of Liaison is entirely dependent on donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.



20

# with Familias of Survisances Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS: COLIAFAM

Co-chairmen:
Dave Dellinger
Core Weiss

Treesurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee Richard J. Barnett Rennie Davis Madeline Duckies Prof. Richard Falk Rev. Richard Fernandez Norman Fruchter \*Maggie Geddes Steve Halliwell Prof. Donald Kelish Stewart Meacham Prof. Bea Seitzman Prof. Franz Schurmann Ethel Taylor \*Barbara Webster Trudi Young

\*staff

June 14, 1970

### Door Irland:

We are very glad to send you the enclosed letter from North Vietnam. It, along with 142 others, was brought to this country by Jean Palomdon, Nancy Rubin and Judy Claver -- anti-war activists who spent two weeks in North Vietnam.

The letters were slightly delayed in getting here because all the material they brought back with them, including the letters, was confiscated by the Canadian Customs upon their arrival in Montreal. This was totally unexpected and unprecedented; but they generated enough pressure so that everything was returned to them.

There will be another group going to North Vietnam at the end of this month. It you would like them to take a letter from you, please send it to us in the next week or so.

Sincerely,

Barbara Webster

Barbara Webster

1

### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# All 672 PER E0 12812-V

411 BIL PER 60 120

Deta August 13, 1970

bra

### furnished the following information:

United States Air Force, who is a prisoner of war (PCW) in North Vietnam. Her husband was reported as missing in action in July, 1966; however, his status was officially changed by the Air Force in June, 1969, as a released PCW, reported that he was 95% sure as man user free at a PCW camp in North Vietnam.

On December 3, 1969, Mrs received a memo-176 randum from Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, advising her that the American Friends Service Committee, Inc. (AFSC) could possibly set letters through to POWS in North Vietnam. Mrs. then wrote a letter to her husband and sent it to the AFSC in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She received a letter, dated December 15, 1969, from LOUIS W. SCHNEIDER of AFSC, acknowledging receipt of her letter. A photographic copy of the letter from SCHNEIDER is attached hereto.

In January, 1970, Mrs. received a letter from ROGER G. FREDRICKSON of AFSC, dated January 20, 1970, a photographic copy of which is attached hereto. This letter makes reference to the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Betained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM).

husband on March 24, 1970. This letter was postmarked at Hanoi, and apparently came directly to her through the mails. This was her first real proof that her husband was alive.

During the latter part of March or first part of April, 1970, Mrs. received a telephone call from someone in the Casualty Division of the Air Force at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, possibly Colonel GRATCH. The caller informed Mrs. that CORA WEISS of COLIFAE had requested her address. Hrs. told the person calling that she had no objection to maying her address furnished to WEISS.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

# All 67c PER ED 12812-2

CO 100-909

2

Shortly after the call from Randolph AFB, Mrs. Received a telephone call from some unknown freporter with "The State" newspaper, Columbia, South Carolina. The reporter advised Mrs. that CORA WEISS had released a list of names of rows in North Vietnam and the hame of the was on the list.

Mrs. hext received a letter dated April 7, 1970, from CORA WEISS and DAVE DELLINGER of COLIFAM. Enclosed with this letter was an information sheet concerning COLIFAM. Photographic copies of the letter and information sheet are attached hereto.

She next received a letter dated May 4, 1970, from Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ of COLIFAM, a photographic copy of which is attached hereto.

Nrs. last heard from COLIFAN when she received a letter dated June 14, 1970, signed by BARBARA/7c WEBSTER, which enclosed a letter from Letter from A photographic copy of the letter from WEBSTER is attached hereto. This was the last letter Mrs. MEANS has received from her husband. After reading the letter from her husband, she was of the belief he had not received any of her letters.

In June, 1970, Mrs. received a notice from Randolph AFB advising that a Mr. KIRKPATRICK or KILPATRICK was going to North Vietnam and he would be taking with him letters for the POWS. Mrs. wrote a letter to her husband and sent it to the above individual at Seattle, Washington.

has not received any telephone calls or personal contacts with persons connected with COLIFAM. She knows of no activity on the part of COLIFAM in South Carolina. She knows of no servicemen formerly residing in South Carolina who were contacted by means of COLIFAM while they were prisoners of war.

Mrs. advised that the following wives of POWS in North Vietnam have also been contacted by COLIFAN:

South Carolina. (Now staying with relatives in

# All bic PER ED 12812-2

(2) Mrs.
South Carolina.

(3) Mrs.
South Carolina.

Mrs.
Advised she would be willing to cooperate should her testimony be needed at a later date.

Attached hereto are photographic copies of the correspondence received by from COLIFAM and the AFSC:

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE INC.



160 North Eifteanth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 131 Phone 215-563-9372

HENRY BEERITS

HENRY J. CADBURY
BRONSON P. CLARK

Executive Secretary

December 15, 1969

Dear Friend,

This is but a brief note to acknowledge receipt of your letter addressed to your family member who is being held as a prisoner of war in North Vietnam.

My current plans call for me to arrive in North Vietnam on or about 26 December at which point I hope to be able to turn your letter along with a large number of other letters from the immediate families of men being held to the appropriate authorities of the Democratic Republic of North Vietnam, along with my request that the letters be delivered to the individual prisoners.

After my return to the United States I will write to you again to let you know whether it was possible to deliver the letters.

Most sincerely yours,

Louis W. Schneider

Associate Executive Secretary

کے ویے

AMERICAN FRIEND. LERVICE COMMITTEE INC.

- The

160 North Fifteenth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19 Phone 215-563-9372

HENRY BEERITS

HENRY J. CADBURY
History Chairman

BRONSON P. CLARK
Executive Secretary

January 20, 1970

Dear Friend,

I am happy to report that during my visit to North Vietnam between December 26, 1969, and January 9, 1970, I was able to deliver to the representatives of the Vietmy (Viet Nam Committee for Solidarity with American People) about 500 letters that had been forwarded on to me by you and other family members of prisoners of war in North Vietnam.

Immediately prior to my departure from North Vietnam I was given 69 letters from 64 American prisoners of war, and in keeping with the North Vietnamese request these letters have been given to the

Committee of Liaison with Families of Service men detained in North Vietnam 365 W. 42nd Street New York

for transmittal to the individual addressees. We at the American Friends Service Committee are pleased to have had a part in opening a channel for communication between the prisoners and their families and hope that this will continue.

You may be interested to know that during my visit to North Vietnam I was able to deliver a second contribution of open heart surgical equipment to the Benh Vien Viet-Duc Hospital in Hanoi in keeping with a long-standing Quaker concern for civilian sufferers on both sides of a war.

Following my departure from North Vietnam I traveled on to Quang Ngai in South Vietnam to visit the American Friends Service Committee (Quaker) rehabilitation project for civilian casualties.

I have asked my colleagues in Philadelphia to mail this letter to you prior to my return to the United States, so that you might know more promptly that your letter has safely arrived in Hanoi and was given to the appropriate North Vietnamese authorities with my specific request that it be delivered to the individual addressee.

t sincurely your

for: Louis W. Schneider Roger G. Fredrickson

50

RF/h

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnan

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen:
Dave Dellinger
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee Richard J. Barnett Rennie Davis Madeline Duckles Prof. Richard Falk Rev. Richard Fernandez Norman Fruchter \*Maggie Geddes Steve Halliwell Prof. Donald Kalish Stewart Meacham Prof. Bea Seitzman Prof. Franz Schurmann Ethel Taylor \*Barbara Webster Trudi Young

\*staff

Apr11 7, 1970

Dear 7100.

bre 6012812-2

Our Committee has recently received official confirmation of 81 more servicemen being held in North Vietnam. By now you should have

heard that
is on this list. The North Vietnamese have
now confirmed through the Committee of
Lisison a total of 335 men being held.

This notification also means that a letter is en route from him. The enclosed release explains how mail is forwarded via our office. Because mail from Hanoi is very slow we cannot be sure when the letter will come, but we will forward it as soon as it arrives here.

We are very pleased to be able to perform this service and hope that you will feel free to be in touch with us should you have any questions.

At the same time, we are continuing to work towards the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Southeast Asia so that soon all families, American and Vietnamese, can be united again.

Sincerely,

Cora Weiss Dave Dellinger

P.S. Kindly excuse the mimeographed letter, but there are many families to reach at the same time.

### with Families of Servicomen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

· (212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS: COLIAFAM

INFORMATION SHEET

Co-chairmen: Dove Dellinger Cora Weiss

Functions of the Committee

Treasurer:

The Committee of Liaison seeks to facilitate communication between servicemen imprisoned in North Vietnam and their families in the United States. The Committee receives letters from servicemen and forwards them to the families through the domestic mails. It also forwards letters to North Vietnam at the request of families. Families are, of course, still free to send letters directly but should not the correct address for both letters and packages:

Committee (in formation): Sonnie Davis Rev. Richard Fernandez Maggie Geddes \*Sieve Halliwall

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Name of serviceman, serial number Camp of Detention of U.S. Pilots Captured in the D.R.V.

Stewart Meacham Hrof. Bea Soitzman Ethel Toylor

Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam via Moscow, U.S.S.R.

\* Larbara Webster \*Trudi Young

"stoff

Captured servicemen may receive one letter a month and one package (not over six pounds in Weight) every other month. The Committee does not forward packages. It is suggested that letwers sent to the Committee for forwarding be sealed and that stamps be enclosed (not affixed) as letters are forwarded in packets.

The Committee is only able to be of help with respect to men who have been shot down over North Vietnam.

The Committee also is able to request information regarding the status of men thought to have been shot down over North Vietnam and captured there. --For such inquiries the Committee needs to have the individual's service number, and any available information as to when and where he was shot down. With respect to such requests the Committee would expect to receive a letter to his family if the individual is being held in North Vietnam. If the individual is known to be dead or if the North Vietnamese have no information regarding him, the Committee expects to receive that word to the extent possible. In any case the Committee will communicate with the family conderned as soon as it receives word. In this way we expect that, as Xuan Thuy, head of the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris, has said, gradually all families of servicemen held in North Vietnam will hear from their relation

#### Beakeround

The Committee of Liaison has been established in response to an initiative

created by the North Vietnamese and is an extension of previous efforts. It is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam.

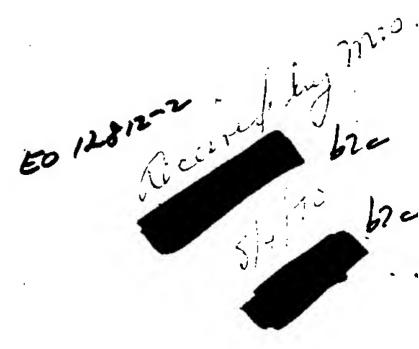
Since 1965 there have been a number of meetings between people of Vietnam (from both the North and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam) and Americans who oppose the war. On three separate occasions representatives of the American anti-war movement have gone to Hanoi and have returned with released servicemen. On one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to receive three American soldiers who were released by the National Liberation Front. Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters to captured servicemen at the request of their families and they have brought back letters when they have returned to the United States. On several occasions such visitors from the peace movement have met with captured pilots in Hanoi.

#### The Committee

The Committee of Liaison believes that the safe return of U.S. serviceme captured in North Vietnam and the half-million others that the United States maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and aboard naval vessels can only come with a decision on the part of the U.S. government to completely withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will also continue our efforts aimed at the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. armed forces and weapons.

As individuals Committee members are active in a variety of organization and groups committed to ending the war: the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, The Conspiracy, Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam, U.S. Inter-religious Committee on Peace, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Newsreel, Women Against Daddy Warbucks, Lawyers Committee on Vietnam, and Women Strike for Peace.

The Committee of Liaison is entirely dependent on donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.



## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

May 4, 1970

Co-chairmen:
Dave Dellinger
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee Richard J. Barnett Rennie Davis Madeline Duckles Prof. Richard Falk Rev. Richard Fernandez Norman Fruchter \*Maggie Geddes Steve Halliwell Prof. Donald Kalish Stewart Meacham Prof. Sea Seitzman Prof. Franz Schurmann Ethel Taylor \*Barbara Webster Trudi Young

\*staff

From: Rev. Richard Fernandez

To: The families of the 335 presently confirmed prisoners held in North Vietnam

Re: Information on correspondence with prisoners

On April 20th I returned from a three-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. In North Vietnam I spoke with officials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families here. The following information was emphasized to me by the North Vietnamese authorities and we are anxious to make sure that you are aware of it:

- 1) The Vietnamese recommend that families use the air-letter form (enclosed) for correspondence.
- 2) Communication to pilots should be limited to matters of family and health.
- 3) Pilots are allowed to receive one letter per month and one package every other month (not over six pounds in weight).

Detention Camp authorities have said that they do not wish to receive several letters and/or packages per month for a given pilot from different members of the same family. Families should make arrangements for alternating letters each month if different members

want to write.

The North Vietnamese authorities indicated that, from this point forward, they will not feel responsible for forwarding letters and packages that do not adher to the above.

If the letter form is mailed directly it can go in another envelope but the mail route, "via Moscow, U.S.S.R.," should definitely be included in the address. If letters are sent to the Committee of Liaison for forwarding please enclose but do not affix stamps as we send letter on in packets. The Committee cannot forward packages for families.

While I was in Hanoi, Prof. Douglas Dow: of Cornell University and I met with three pilots: Cdr. Robert Schweitzer of Lemoore, California; Cdr. Walter Wilbur of Virginia Beach and Lt. Col. Edison Miller of Santa Ana, California. The three men were in good health, and said they had daily exercise and reading material. The three pilots advised us that they had been getting letters and packages from their

Richard Fernandez memo - page 2

families, and asked that packages include toilet articles and canned foods. In particular they mentioned soap, shaving cream (no razors or blades), toothpaste, powdered milk and cream, instant coffee and non-melting candy. They said they do not need clothes.

Also, in my discussions with the Vietnam Committee of Solidarity with the American People, the Committee of Liaison's contact in North Vietnam, we confirmed that since December over 800 letters have been sent from Handi through the Committee of Liaison. Of those, 159 letters are still on their way from Handi to families here.

We hope that this information clarifies some aspects of correspondence for you. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

## COMMITTEE O. IAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietn

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger

Cora Weiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Dear friend:

We are very glad to send you the enclosed letter from North Vietnam. It, along with 142 others, was brought to this country by Jean Palomdon, Nancy Rubin and Judy Claver -- anti-war activists who spent two weeks in North Vietnam.

The letters were slightly delayed in getting here because all the material they brought back with them, including the letters, was confiscated by the Canadian Customs upon their arrival in Montreal. This was totally unexpected and unprecedented; but they generated enough pressure so that everything was returned to them.

There will be another group going to North Vietnam at the end of this month. If you would like them to take a letter from you, please send it to us in the next week or so.

Sincerely,

Barbara Webster

Barbara Webster

June 14, 1970

Committee

Richard J. Barnett
Rennie Davis
Madeline Duckles
Prof. Richard Falk
Rev. Richard Fernandez
Norman Fruchter
\*Maggie Geddes
Steve Holliwell
Prof. Donald Kalish
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Prof. Franz Schurmann
Ethel Taylor
\*Barbara Webster
Trudi Young

\*staff

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
All bre PER BO 12812-2

August 20, 1970

1

she is he wife of

Air Fore (USAF), serill who is a career officer
in the USAF. She said her husband is a pilot, was shot down
over prth Vietnam on 1967, and was first officially
classified as a Prisoner of Var (POW) on 1969.

said she is acquainted with the Committee Hrs. Liafon with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLAFAM) but has not corresponded with this Committee and has hadro personal contact with its members. She pointed out that shedoes not approve of this Committee or its activities beiuse, in her opinion, COLYAPAN is working against the best imprest of the United States. She maid she felt that all where of COLIAFAN should be hung because of their Un-America. ativities. However, she noted that she has received three fiters from her husband through this Committee and, for this jason, she will not publicly denounce the Counittee or its ktivities as she fears that for her to do so would lesson er chances of getting additional letters from her FCW husband She said it seems that COLIAPAN is the only organization through which she can get news of letters from her husband and she does not want to do anything that would jeopardize her chances of hearing from her husband.

regarding her husband from the date he was shot down 1967) until April 13, 1970. However, on April 4, 1970, an official of the WEAF advised her that COLIAFAN had a list of POWs and her husband's name was on the list. She was informed that the Committee wanted to contact her and the USAF requested permission to release her address to the Committee. She said she gave her approval for the furnishing of her home address to the Committee after the consent of the USAF was received for such action.

She stated on April 7, 1970, Mews Reporter for WFBC-TV, Greenville, South Carolina, telephoned her and advised her that CORA WEISS, Co-Chairman of COLIAYAM, had made a press release in New York, New York, to the Associated Press wire service indicating that

On	8/7/70	s. c.	File#_	Columbia 100-909
		670		
	8A			stated 8/13/70

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is found to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

## All 674 PER 60 12812-2

CO 100-90

from S. C., whose wife Mrs.

b. C., had written to not write and the letter had seen forwarded on to her. He noted that the names of several other POWs and their wives were also released, including the following:

100

Mrs. S. C. Morth Carelina Mrs. N. C.

Hrs. said she noted that all of the names eleased were or individuals with addresses in the same general area of the United States. She said she wondered at the time shy all the individuals involved were from the same area. She noted that none of these people had heard from their husbands prior to this time and the press release was publicised throughout the United States.

April 10, 1970, When she received a letter from COLIAFAM.
The letter, dated April 7, 1978, and signed by both CORA WEISS and BAVE DELLINGER, Co-Chairmen of COLIAFAM, was typed on the Committee's letterhead stationery, reflecting the organization's address as 365 West 42nd Street, New York, M. Y. It stated that the Committee had recently received official confirmation of 81 more servicement being held in North Vietnam.

The writers told Wrs. that, by them, she should have heard that is on this list and noted that the North Vietnamese had confirmed through the Committee of Limison a total of 335 mem being held.

The letter further noted that this notification also meant that a letter was en route from her husband. However, the letter explained that, because mail from Hanoi is very slow, they could not be sure when the letter would arrive. She was assured that the Committee would forward the letter as soon as it arrived at the COLIAFAN office.

The letter further advised as follows:

"We are very pleased to be able to perform this service and hope that you will feel free to be in touch with us should you have any questions."

"At the same time, we are centinuing to work towards the immediate and complete withdrawal of all W. S. troops from Southeast Asia so that soon all families, American and Vietnamese, can be united again."

The writers apoldgized for the mimeographed letter but indicated it was necessary because "there are many families to reach at the same time".

Mrs. Said the following "INFORMANT SHEET" which sets out information regarding the background and functions of COLIAFAN was sent to her as an enclosure to the April 7, 1970 letter:

#### COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS: COLIAFAM

INFORMATION SHEET

· Co-chairmen: Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

Functions of the Committee

Treasurer: Mrs. Anne Bennett The Committee of Lisison seeks to facilitate communication between servicemen imprisoned in North Vietnam and their families in the United States. The Committee receives letters from servicemen and forwards them to the families through the domestic mails. It also forwards letters to North Vietnam at the request of families. Families are, of course, still free to send letters directly but should not the correct address for both letters and packages:

Committee (in formation): Rennie Davis Rev. Richard Fernandez \*Maggie Geddes \*Steve Halliwell Stewart Meacham Prof. Beg Seitzman Ethel Taylor \*Borbara Webster

Name of serviceman, serial number ". Camp of Detention of U.S. Pilots Captured in the D.R.V. Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam via Moscow, U.S.S.R.

\*stoff

\*Trudi Young

Captured servicemen may receive one letter a month and one package (not over six pounds in weight) every other month. The Committee does not forward packages. It is suggested that letters sent to the Committee for forwarding be sealed and that stamps be enclosed (not affixed) as letters are forwarded in packets.

The Committee is only able to be of help with respect to men who have been shot down over North Vietnam.

The Committee also is able to request information regarding the status of men thought to have been shot down over North Vietnam and captured there. Por such inquiries the Committee needs to have the individual's service number, and any available information as to when and where he was shot down. With respect to such requests the Committee would expect to receive a letter to his family if the individual is being held in North Vietnam. If the individual is known to be dead or if the North Vietnamese have no information regarding him, the Committee expects to receive that word to the extent possible. In any case the Committee will communicate with the family concerned as soon as it receives word. In this way we expect that, as Xuan Thuy, head of the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris, has said, gradually all families of servicemen held in North Vietnam will hear from their relatives

#### Background

The Committee of Liaison has been established in response to an initiative

created by the North Vietnamese and is an extension of previous efforts. It is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam,

Since 1965 there have been a number of meetings between people of Vietnam (from both the North and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam) and Americans who oppose the war. On three separate occasions representatives of the American anti-war movement have gone to Hanoi and have returned with released servicemen. On one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to receive three American soldiers who were released by the National Liberation Front. Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters to captured servicemen at the request of their families and they have brought back letters when they have returned to the United States. On several occasions such visitors from the peace movement have met with captured pilots in Hanoi.

#### The Committee

J...

The Committee of Liaison believes that the safe return of U.S. servicesen. captured in North Vietnam and the half-million others that the United States maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and aboard naval vessels can only come with a decizion on the part of the U.S. government to completely withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will also continue our efforts aimed at the Immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. armed forces and weapons.

As individuals Committee members are active in a variety of organizations and groups committed to ending the war: the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, The Conspiracy, Clergy and Layman Concerned About Vietnam, U.S. Inter-religious Committee on Pasce, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Newsreel, Women Against Daddy Warbucks, Lawyers Committee on Vietnam, and Women Strike for Peace.

The Committee of Liaison is entirely dependent on donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.

## All for per EO 12812-2

CO 100-909

620

mrs. pointed cut that the organization claimed in the aforementioned "INFORMATICM SHEET" that is "is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam," but she noted that members of COLIAFAM were connected with several anti-war and asti-Vietnam organizations.

Mrs. Stated that, on April 18, 1979, she received a call from the Postmaster at the Simpsonville Post Office who advised her that a Registered Letter had arrived for her. She said she went to the Post Office and picked up a 5" x 7" hrown envelope which was postmarked New York, N. Y., on April 9, 1970. The envelope was addressed to her, using the address given by her POW husband instead of the address she had furnished to the Committee earlier. She said the envelope reflected the return address of COLIAFAN in New York, N. Y., on the front but had the address "P. O. Box 363, Annandale, Va." handwritten on the babk.

mrater said the envelope contained a letter and a card written to mer by her husband. She indicated that the letters contained news of a personal nature and made no mention of COLIAFAM. They had been written by her husband on December 13, 1969.

Also enclosed in the envelope was a letter from COLIAFAN, dated April 8, 1970, and signed by STEVEN HALLIWELL, COLIAFAN member, and BARBARA WEBSTER, COLIAFAN staff member. It noted that the letter had been received from North Vietnam that day and that over 400 letters were en route from servicemen being held in North Vietnam. It pointed out that Mrs.

Letter was one of 80 received in the first packet to arrive out of a total of five packets the Committee was expecting.

The Committee also enclosed some letter forms which the North Vietnamese had suggested relatives use when writing to servicement in North Vietnam. However, Mrs. Said she did not use these forms because they required that letters witten on the forms be sent to the POW WVIA MOSCOW, USSR (Camp of Detention for W. S. pilots captured in the DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC of VIETNAM).

All by ASE E0 12812-2

CO 100-909

The letter was closed with an expression of Thopes for an early decision by the United States to Withdraw from Vietnam."

Mrs. Said she later received a letter from Revenend RICHARD FRENDRY, COLIAFAN member, which was dated May 4, 1970, and indicated he returned on April 20, 1970, from a three week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. He indicated he had spoken with North Vietnamese efficials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families and set out instructions to be followed by relatives writing to the American POWs. He also indicated he had visited with three captured U.S. pilots and found them in good health.

Committee of Solidarity with the American People is COLIAFAN's contact in North Vietnam and noted that, since December, over 800 letters had been sent from Hanoi through COLIAFAN.

Mrs. said she received a second letter from her husband through COLMFAM on May 15, 1970. The letter had been written by her husband on January 17, 1970, and contained statements of a personal nature. She noted that her husband seemed to be depressed when this letter was written and his handwriting was shaky. She said it appeared he had written the letter hurriedly.

A letter from BARBARA WEBSTER, COLIAFAN staff member, dated May 13, 1970, was enclosed with the letter and noted that the Committee had received two packages (156 letters) of letters from prisoners held in Morth Vietnam. WEBSTER pointed out that, although the packages were mailed a month apart, they arrived on the same day.

COLIAPAN on June 29, 1970, six weeks after the letter was written on May 19, 1970. She said her husband was in very good spirit when he wrote this letter and she strongly suspected he had received a package or letter from her just before writing.

This letter was accompanied with a cover letter from BARBARA WEBSTER of COLIAFAN which was dated June 26, 1970.

120

WEBSTER noted that the letter, along with 105 others, was brought back to the united States by a group of anti-war people who had just returned from a visit to North Vietnam. She noted that this brought to 1,110 the total of letters which the Committee had forwarded on to families since December, 1969.

said she has had no contact with any Ers. member of COLIATAN and has not corresponded with the organization. She noted that her only association with COLIAFAN is the receipt of letters from her husband which are forwarded to her by this Committee. She said she has not and will not contact any anti-war group, including COLIAFAM, and will not talk with any of these people if they contact her. She noted that S. C., is the only wife of a POW who byc no has personally concacted COLIAFAM. She said on the telephone with STEVE HALLIWELL and has corresponded back and forth with the Committee. She said she believes has received correspondence from Chicago, Illinois and New 100 York, N. Y. 620

Mrs. Said she definitely would not contact or correspond with Collaran and noted that her husband has given no indication he was everycontacted by the Committee. However, she said she believes some of the relatives of POWs from the South Carolina area have written letters to their husbands and sent them to the Committee for forwarding. No member of COLLARAN has contacted any of these relatives at their South Carolina residences and, except for she knows of no personalycontact between members of COLLARAN and families of POWs detained in North Wiethkm.

Example 2 and a form of pressure.

She said she has received only her husband's letters through COLIAFAM and has neither requested mr received anything else.

She noted that the Committee apparently took her name and address from her husband's letters inamuch as this is the address used in press releases and correspondence concerning her husband. She said she believed this is true regarding other wives of PCWs contacted by the Committee.

She named the following wives of POWs who have been contacted by COLIAFAN:

Mrs. B. C. 8. C. E012812-2

Mrs. Brs. S. C. 67c

She noted also that the family of Anderson, S. C., had also seen contacted by COLIAYAN.

In conclusion, Mrs. Stated she would be willing to cooperate should her testimony be needed later as she has no use for COLIAPAM and similar organizations. She noted, however, that she would testify only if the USAF granted approval for such testimony due to the sensitive area in which her husband was engaged while flying for the USAF before his capture. She again stated her dislike for the necessity of dealing with people such as those making up the membership of COLIAFAM and expressed her belief that their activities are harmful to the interest of the United States. However, she said she will continue to accept letters passed through them inasmuch as this seems to be the only way she can get word from her husband.

She stated that, if she has further contact with any member of COLIAFAM, she will immediately notify the FBI and the USAF.

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All box Box 50 12812-2

8/18/70

1

in North Vietnam.

air observer on Phanton Jet. The advised her son was apparently shot down on 1968, off the coast of Worth Vietnam and was theresiter captured by North Vietnamese officials and is presently a prisoner of war

her son, sent by normal mail, which was written en Ostober 12, 1969, and arrived at the residence on December 22, 1969, in Anderson, South Carolina. MAS. Stated she had received a second letter from her son, received in W. S. through the efforts of Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam which letter was dated April 7, 1970. MRS. Stated that she periodically receives telephone calls from an efficer of the W. S. Havy at the Greenville, S. C. Office of the W. S. Haval Reserves, notifying her that certain people or groups are leaving for Hanoi and that if she has any mail to be sent and delivered to her son, a prisoner of war, it should be forwarded to that person or group leaving for Hanoi.

676 stated that her first contact with a group taking mail to and returning mail from her son was through the American Friends Service Committee, Inc., 160 M. 15th St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She has received letters from this organization dated July 23, 1969, September 18, 1969, October 31, 1969, these three letters having been sent to her by JOSEPH W. ELDER, a member of this committee. She advised she also received letters from this group dated December 6, 1969, December 24, 1969, which letter was sent in the mame of Louis Schneider. The last letter she received from the American Friends Service Committee, Inc. was dated February B. 1970, and was signed by one COER G. FREDERICKSON. MR this letter which is a form rector telling her that Louis W. Schneider had made a trip to North Vietnam betw dates of December 26, 1969,

On8/10/70 at	8. C.	Columbia 100-909	
by SA	620	Date dictated 8/11/70	-

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your or it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

at which time he returned to the United States with 69 letters from 64 American Prisoners of War which letters were given to the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam, 365 West 42md Street, New York, N. Y., 19036, for transmittal to the individual persons to which they were addressed in the United States. She advised this was her first contact with the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam.

MRS. Joseph Elder on November 12, 1969, at Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesots, where Dr. Elder, who is a professor of Sociology and Indian Studies at the University of Visconsin, spoke concerning his trips to Manoi, and the contacts he had made with North Vietnamese officials concerning Americans held as Prisoners of War by North Vietnam.

NOTES OF DR.: JOSEPH ELDER'S MEETING ON NOVEMBER 12, 1969 AT HAMLINE UNIVERSITY

On the evening of November 12, 1969, Dr. Joseph Elder spoke to some of the families of men missing in action and prisoner of war in Southeast Asia at Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota. Dr. Elder is a professor of Sociology and Indian Studies at the University of Wisconsin. He is a Quaker and a pacifist and under the auspices of the American Friends Service Committee he was invited to travel to Hanoi twice, first to discuss civilian needs with the North Victnamese, the second time to deliver a humanitarian gift of heart surgical equipment requested by the North Victnamese. The South Vietnamese have received such medical gifts in the past, as well as a great deal of help with artificial limbs at the Quaker prosthetics training center in Quang Ngai, South Vietname.

In September, just before his last trip to Hanoi in October, two wives of pilots missing in action and prisoner of war, traveled to Madison, Wisconsin to meet Dr. Elder and make a formal (personal) request for his help in getting a list of prisoners from the North Vietnamese and give to him letters for their husbands for attempted delivery.

After his return from Hanoi, the two wives, Mrs. Richard Walsh and Mrs. David Winn, Spoke with Dr. Elder and invited him to speak informally to a group of the National League of Families of American Prisoners in Southeast Asia. He very generously and kindly accepted the invitation to tell us about his trips to North Vietnam. The following notes were taken during his talk.

The first trip into Hanoi took place June 10-17, 1969. Upon his arrival, the Vietnam Committee for Solidarity with American People (Vietnam Committee) asked Dr. Elder what would be some of the things he would like to do while in Hanoi. He then suggested a priority agenda. The first three items on the agenda dealt with discussion of civilian needs in North Vietnam and other AFSC concerns. The fourth point dealt with U.S. prisoners of war in North Vietnam. (It should be noted from a historical point of interest that the Quakers have shown concern for prisoners for 300 years.)

A M. Houang Bac was the major political officer that Dr. Elder spoke with on June 10th. Dr. Elder asked M. Bac if he might visit a POW camp, talk with any POW's, or take any POW mail back to the U.S. He also asked if he could obtain a list of prisoners in order to notify their relatives. On June 17th, M. Bac replied that he or his branch of government did not have access to military authorities and that "many prisoners are a long way from Hanoi." M. Bac further stated that it would take six or seven weeks to prepare a list of prisoners and perhaps when Dr. Elder returned to Hanoi a list could then be made available. Dr. Elder said that he had not initially suggested that they offer to have the list ready on his return trip, but that M. Bac himself suggested this, thereby indicating a positive response.

Following the visit to North Vietnam, and receiving a request list of

open-heart surgical equipment, Dr. Elder flew to South Vietnam to visit the Quaker project in Quang Ngai. In Saigon, Dr. Elder had an interview with Ambassador Ellsworth Bunker.

He returned to Washington in July and he and four other spokesmen for AFSC met with Henry Kissinger to discuss the war as well as to relay events of his trip. As a follow-up to his conversation with M. Bac, Dr. Elder wrote a letter to Hanoi about his next visit to Hanoi in which he stated that he would like item three on his priority list to deal with the prisoners of war. He also mentioned in this letter that the Quakers in South Vietnam had visited and provided comfort to a group of North Vietnamese fishermen who were POW's in South Vietnam. He stressed humane treatment for all sides.

Dr. Elder reached Hanoi on his second visit, October 10th, and remained there until the 17th. While in Hanoi to deliver the heart surgical equipment, Dr. Elder made four requests to see some prisoners or failing this, to receive mail from them, or to receive a list of the men. The first request was on October 10th with a "lower echelon" committee of North Vietnamese. The next morning there was a meeting with a higher series of officials, and Dr. Elder presented the same request relating to the prisoners. Dr. Elder stated that if the North Vietnamese did not want to deal with the International Red Cross, the American Friends Service Committee or the Quakers, with a history of 300 years of pacifism, could be the organization to deal with the lists of prisoners. Dr. Elder said that in about 1965 the North Vietnamese had asked the Swiss or the International Committee of the RedCross to denounce the U.S. as the aggressors. But the Swiss refused saying that their function was to help, not, condemn. Since then, the North Vietnamese have not discussed prisoners with the ICRS. Dr. Elder said further that the Quakers meet the need to act as a go between in the prisoner situation because of their history of pacifism and also because the American Friends Service Committee has been on record against the war in Southeast Asia for a long time.

On Sunday, October 12th, Dr. Elder turned over the POW mail he had brought from the States. He had already scrted the 250 letters and three packages alphabetically. He handed them to M. Toan. He then went on a tour of Thanh Hoa Province, about 5 hours south of Hanoi in connection with stories he is writing for magazines. When he returned to Hanoi, he saw M. Toan once again and inquired about the packet of letters. M. Toan said they had been given to prison camp authorities.

On Thursday, October 16th, the POW issue was raised a third time. This time the North Vietnamese gave a lecture on their prisoner policy. Among prisoners they distinguish between "aggressors" and "victims of aggression." The pilots are defined as "aggressors" because they are volunteers and officers (not draftees), and they were engaged in attacks on North Vietnamese civilians when they were shot down (attacks contrary to principles enunciated at the Nuremberg trials). The North Vietnamese define themselves as "revolutionary humanitarians;" they claim to police themselves and give the POW's adequate medical care and

45.

dict. They see no reason to have an intermediary. Pilots get twice as much rice, fish and vegetables, as the typical North Vietnamese. They have newspapers in camp and some reading matter. Then Dr. Elder said his "wrist was slapped", when they said "your government is using the families of the missing men and POW's for propaganda purposes." Then Dr. Elder made this point, that "the release of a prisoner list would end the propaganda." Dr. Elder told them that their policy of refusing to release names hurt the "victims of aggression," i.e., the families of the men at home. The men themselves know that they were alive, but the families at home did not know, and were suffering unnecessarily.

At a meeting with the Foreign Minister, Nguyen duy Trinh, "I would like to ask a question of you, but I do not want an answer now." Dr. Elder then made the same points he had made the day before with the Vietnam Committee. He concluded by asking, "Will you change your policy regarding releasing the names of U. S. prisoners?" With that Dr. Elder changed the subject.

Five days later, Dr. Elder was back in Washington talking with Frank Sieverts in the State Department. Mr. Sieverts said that over 4 - 5 years, the U.S. ex-POW, who have come back from Hanoi have had different experiences ranging from quite adequate to quite inadequate. Some reported torture. Then Dr. Elder said that he had spoken with a North Vietnamese doctor, who had given physical checkups to two pilots captured in Nam Ha Province. Dr. Elder said that, to the extent he accomplished anything on the POW issue, it was to place pressure on the North Vietnamese to release a list of the men to some anti-war group. Just a short time after Dr. Elder had returned, William Kunstler, the new mobe lawyer, left for Paris, so perhaps the North Vietnamese were going to release a list to Kunstler. Dr. Elder felt that mail from prisoners families is getting into Hanoi, but very little is getting out.

The remainder of the meeting consisted of questions and answers.

- Q. Again, why cannot our government offer ransom for the prisoners?
- A. When a Stockholm Conference on Reconstruction sends representatives in December to Hanoi, perhaps some of the member neutral nations can press for a list of POW's then. The American Friends Service Committee delegate to this conference is Mr. Lou Schneider, American Friends Service Committee Inc., 160 N. 15th St., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19102. Mr. Tom Swain of St. Paul suggests that we contact him and make this request. (Asking for a set of letters of opinion from other member nations to Hanoi for refusing to give a list of men they are holding.) Dr. Elder points out that the North Vietnamese administration is bureaucratic and pursues details, so they must keep an accurate listing and accounting of the men they are holding. Dr. Elder felt that one of the most important men he spoke with while there, was Nguyen Duy Trinh, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, of the Dem. Republic of Vietnam.
- . Q. How do they react to the moratorium activities in this country?
  - A. They are "pleased and interested" but they are not "overwhelmed with

gratitude." They feel they can "go it alone", as far as the war is concerned. Dr. Elder said that they did send a message to participants in the moratorium thanking them for their support.

- Q. Do the North Vietnamese talk about their troops in Laos"
- A. They talk about Laos in their news broadcasts frequently. They call their military forces, the "Peoples Liberation Army." So among themselves, they do admit to being in Laos and South Vietnam. Marge Nelson, a Quaker doctor, was captured in Hue in the 1968 Tet offensive and held prisoner by the North Vietnamese. After about 40 days they released her. Marge Nelson had given Joe Elder some photographs of herself to be given in gratitude to the wife of one North Vietnamese and the sister of another North Vietnamese who had been particularly kind to her. while she was their prisoner. It was slightly embarrassing moment when Dr. Elder gave the North Vietnamese tho photos, since they reflected on the fact that the North Vietnamese are indeed in South Vietnam.
- Q. Do you know anything about the North Vietnamese POW's held in the South? (Dr. Elder)
- A. In 1965, when the International Committee of the Red Cross had offered to begin dealing with prisoners of war, and the South Vietnamese had not responded, the Americans threatened to take over handling the POW camps if the South Vietnamese did not correct the situation. Today the Swiss representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross inspect these southern camps. After their inspections, they report any shortcomings to the South Vietnamese government itself and request the shortcomings be remedied. It is estimated by the ICRC that the Saigon government holds about 31,000 POW's, of whom only about 18,000 have had their names submitted to the ICRC by the Saigon government, leaving 13,000 held but not unaccounted for. This 31,000 includes both NLF and North Vietnamese POW's.

When Dr. Elder was in Quang Ngai, South Vietnam, he visited a civilian political prison and found conditions there very deplorable, crowded with people (1,400 in a prison designed for 400) locked up in great numbers at night with no toilet facilities. So, the Quakers, like the Fellowship of Reconciliation, "are on record" as having noted these unsatisfactory prison conditions.

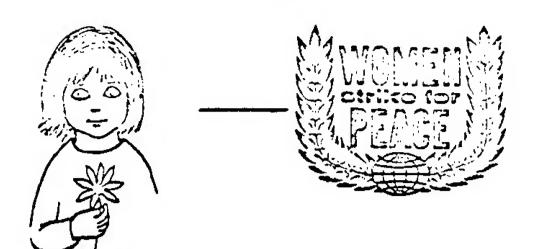
This report is based on notes taken by

E0 12812-6

620 E012812-2

MRS. Continued that she received a form letter from a group in Philadelphia known as the Women strike for Peace, 20 South 12th Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 19107. The letter is dated January 21, 1970, which letter is signed by ETHEL TAYLOR (Mrs. William Taylor) 1505 Ashford Way, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. MRS. made available a copy of this letter.

62 E012812-2



#### TWENTY SOUTH TWELFTH STREET

PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19107 Telephone: 561-2636

January 21, 1970

Dear Tus 6128122

I am sorry that it has taken me so long to write to you but I've been waiting until I could make definite suggestions to you and now I am pleased to say I can.

I regret very much that I did not bring back a letter for you but now an organization has been set up between the Peace Movement and Hanoi specifically for the purpose of forwarding mail and forwarding inquiries regarding prisoners from the immediate family.

The organization is the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam and is located at 365 W. 42nd Street, New York City, N.Y., 10036.

I am a member of this Committee. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any reason.

Cordially,

Mrs. William Taylor

1505 Ashford Way Phila., Pa., 19151 MI 2-9078 (Area Code 215)

P.S. You will shortly receive information directly from the Committee of Liaison with details of its operation.

bra

E0 128/2-2

the Committee of Limison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam was by letter dated January 28, 1970, from this group, addressed to her home in Anderson. This letter was signed by BARBARA WEBSTER. MRS.

670

#### COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnan

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

A11 676 PER ED 12812-2

Dear

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS: COLIAFAM

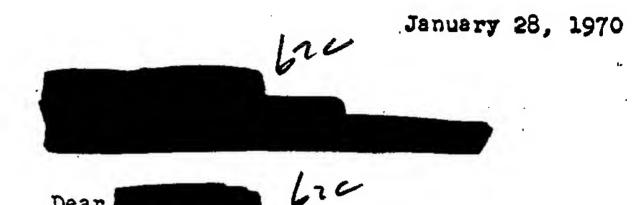
10

Co-chairmen: Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

Treasurer: Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee (in formation): Ronnie Davis Ray, Richard Fernandez \*Maggie Geddes \*Stove Halliwell Stewart Meacham Prof. Bea Seitzman Ethel Taylor \*Barbara Webster \*Trudi Young

\*staff



Ethel Taylor has asked us to contact you and we are enclosing our Information Sheet which

describes the Committee of Liaison.

Also enclosed is an air letter form which you may wish to use. The North Vietnamese have said that prisoners may send and receive one letter a month, and a package (not over six pounds in weight) every other month. Note the correct mail address and route in the Information Sheet.

The only way to secure the eventual release of prisoners is through the decision by the United States to end the war. But in the meantime we are pleased to be able to assist in the communication between men and their families. We hope to be sending you letters from Robert in the near future.

> Sincerely, Cartala Webster

11

MRS. stated that her next contact with this Committee of Linison was dated April 20, 1970, which was a form letter addressed to and This letter is signed by STEVELL HALLIVILL, a copy of which was furnished by This letter enclosed a letter from her sen to her. EDILBILL

#### COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

April 20, 1970

Co-chairmen: Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee Richard J. Barnett Ronnie Davis Madeline Duckles Prof. Richard Falk Rev. Richard Fernandez Norman Fruchter \*Maggie Geddes Steve Halliwell Prof. Donald Kalish Stewart Meacham Prof. Bea Seitzman Prof. Franz Schurmann Ethel Taylor \*Barbara Webster Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear 60 12812-2

Rev. Richard remandez, a member of the Committee of Liaison, returned today from a two-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. He trought back the enclosed letter along with 201 others from prisoners being held in North Vietnam.

While there, Rev. Fernandez held a lengthy interview with three pilots, Cdr. Robert Schweitzer, Cdr. Walter Wilber and Lt. Col. Edison Miller. He also was advised by North Vietnamese authorities that families should write letters monthly on the enclosed air-letter forms. We are therefore sending several to you at this time and will send more with subsequent mail.

We are of course very pleased to be able to forward this letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

Steven E. Halliwell

Rev. Fernandy, a United Church of Christ minutes

MRS stated that the above letter from her son through the Committee of Linison was the only letter that she has received through the Committee 's activities .

received was from the Clergy and Laymen Concerned about Vietnam, 475 Riverside Drive, New York, N. Y., which letter was dated June 4, 1970, and was signed by RICHARD R. FERNANDEZ, Director of this group. MRS.

10

## CLERGY AND LAYMEN CONCERNED ABOUT VIETNAM

## a national emergency committee

475 Riverside Drive

New York, N.Y. 10027

212-749-8518



Dr. John C. Bennett
President,
Union Theological Seminary

Rabbi Abraham J. Heschel
Prolessor, Jewish Theological
Seminary of America

Mrs. Coretta Scott King Atlanta, Georgia

Mr. Philip Scharper Vice-President, Sheed & Ward, Inc.

Dr. James P. Shannon
Vice-President
St. John's College
Santa Fe, New Mexico

DIRECTOR

Rev. Richard R. Fernandez

PROGRAM AND
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS

Mrs. Laverne Banks Mr. David Schilling Mr. Michael O. Sedore Mr. Keith Watson Miss Vicki Wast June 4, 1970



Thanks so much for your letter of May 9. I've simply been over my head with work, and I'm just now getting into some of my back correspondance.

I was pleased to be able to go to North Vietnam and carry a letter to your son. With you, I hope that a speedy end to the war can be found so that your son and the sons of Vietnamese can be returned to their homes.

If there is ever any way in which I can be of assistance to you, please don't hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

Richard R. Fernandez Director

\_

RRF/vmw

5/5/

#### NATIONAL COMMITTEE

\*Mrs. Mia Adjali \*Dr. John C. Bennett Rev. Daniel Berrigan, S.J. Rev. Philip Borrigan, S.S.). Rev. Eugene Carson Blake. Rev. Harold Bosley Rev. Malcolm Boyd \*Rabbi Balfour Brickner \*Dr. Robert McAfee Brown Dr. Daniel Callahan Dr. Daniel Callahan
Rev. Donald R. Campion, S.J.
Dr. William B. Cate - A
Rev. William Sloane Coffin, Jr.
Dr. Henry Steeler Commager Sister Mary Corita, I.H.M. Rt. Rev. Daniel Corrigan Rt. Rev. Daniel Corrigan
Mr. Wayne C. Cowan
Dr. Harvey G. Cox
Rt. Rev. William Crittenden
Rt. Rev. C. Edward Crowther
Rt. Rev. C. Edward Crowther
Rt. Rev. C. Edward Crowther
Rt. Rev. Dahlberg

Dr. Martin E. Marty
Bishop James K. Mathews
Mrs. Eugene J. McCarthy
Rev. Richard T. McSorley, \$ J.
Dt. Seymour Melman
Rt. Pew Paul I. Moore, Jr. Mother M. Jogues Egan, R.S.H.M. Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath \*Mr. Gerhard Elston

\*Mr. James Finn \*Rev. Harold R. Fray, Jr. \*Mrs. Russell Fuller
\*Mishop Charles F. Gölden
Dr. Dana McLean Greeley \*Rev. Herschel Halbert «
\*Rabbi Abraham J. Heschel Rev. David R. Hunter Mrs. David K. Hunter
Mrs. Dorothy H. Hutchinson
Mrs. Coretta Scott King
Kabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld
Mrs. Howard Levine
Mrs. David Levitt
Rishon John Wester Lead Bishop John Wesley Lord "Rev. William MacElvaney Dr. Martin E. Marty Rr. Rev. Paul J. Moore, Jr. Dr. Hans J. Morgenthau \* Rt. Rev. J. Brooke Mosley

\*Rev. Richard John Neuhaus Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr \*Mr. Michael Novak \*Rev. Robert Pierce \*Mr. Robert C. Ransom Rabbi Max Routtenberg Dr. W-Harold Row Mr. Philip Scharper Dr. Howard Schomer Dr. James P. Shannon Dr. Richard Shaull Rev. Rodney Shaw
Rev. John B. Sheerin, C.S.P. Rev. Joseph Sittler Miss Thelma Stevens Or. Tom T. Stonier Bishop R. Marvin Stuart Dr. John M. Swomley, Jr. Sister Ann Patrick Ware, S.L. Mrs. Theodore O. Wedel Rabbi Jacob Weinstein \*Dr. Charles C. West Mr. Herman Will, Jr. \*Dr. Walter Wink Dr. Colin W. Williams

\*Denotes Steering Committee members.

20 stated she had received an information sheet from the Committee of Liaison dated January, 1970, which sheet gave background information, functions of the committee, clarification and "who we are".

670 advised that no member of the Committee of Linison has personally contacted her and the only contact she has had has been by letter or letters which are earlier set forth in this interview. She advised in no way has the Committee harassed her in any manner. She advised that as a result of her contact with this Committee, she bre has received one letter from her son. MRS. she and her husband had attended a meeting in washington in May, 1970, which meeting was dedicated to the discussion of Prisoners now held by North Vietnamese authorities and how relatives could contact these prisoners of war. She stated over the past year and a half, she has become acquainted with meveral other families who also have sons or husbands now prisoners of war. She advised that her son's pilot was named who has never been heard from since the time that her son's jet crashed. She advised she has had some contact with MRS. whose father is an Admiral in the Navy, stationed in washington. MRS. stated that she would be glad to provide the above information in the form of testimony if it were needed.

## All ATC REE EO 12812-2

CO 100-909

Lieutenant JOHN A. DRAUGHON, Personal Affairs Officer, Charleston Air Force Base, Charleston, South Carolina, on July 22, 1970 furnished the names of the following persons:

Mrs.

white or the Worth Vietnamese.

Georgia, telephone number Wife of United States Air Force.

South Carolina, telephone number

Father of United States Air Force, prisoner in North Vietnam.

De

He furnished the names of no additional persons.

south Carolina, was contacted on July 27, 1970 and she advised that she has had no contact with the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) and she knows no one that has been in contact with COLIFAM.

She declined to furnish the identity of other families in the Charleston, South Carolina, area.

## A/ 6x RER ED 12812-2

Agent The following investigation was conducted by Epecial

Bgt. Personnel Affairs Office, Myrtle Beach Air Force

On August 11, 1970, Mgt. Personnel Affairs, Myrtle Beach AFB, advised that according to his files which include only Air Force personnel, he has the following record of two individuals who are, in Air Force terms, "missing in action".

Captain Hanky Levis Allan, white male, date of birth September 21, 1943, at Conway, South Carolina, Service Mumber
266-60-3546, assignment - Detachment 1 56th Special Operations
Wing as of March 26, 1970, record reflected only family is
mother.

SECOND INDIVIDUAL
The second individual is a Captain MELVIN E. LADEWIG,
white male, date of birth - August 8, 1944 in Denver, Colorado,
Service Number 522-54-8724, assigned to 497th Tac. Fighter
Squadron. He stated the only family was LADEWIG's wife

#### and one infant son.

He stated both individuals were pilots and that be had talked personally with on numerous occasions; however, they have never mentioned to him that they had been contacted by any group affiliated with prisoners of war.

Sgt. explained that Captain ALLEN was on a training mission with another pilot. Apparently during a maneuver the plane crashed and Captain ALLEN was presumed to be dead.

Me stated that in regard to Captain LADEWIG that while making an attempted landing, observation of the aircraft

following the first pass, observers saw an explosion and subsequent fireball, but no parachuse. He stated that Captain LADEWIG was presumed to be dead.

Thailand and there has been no evidence to his knowledge of correspondence from them since they were declared missing in action.

າ 100-909

# 170 E0 12812-2

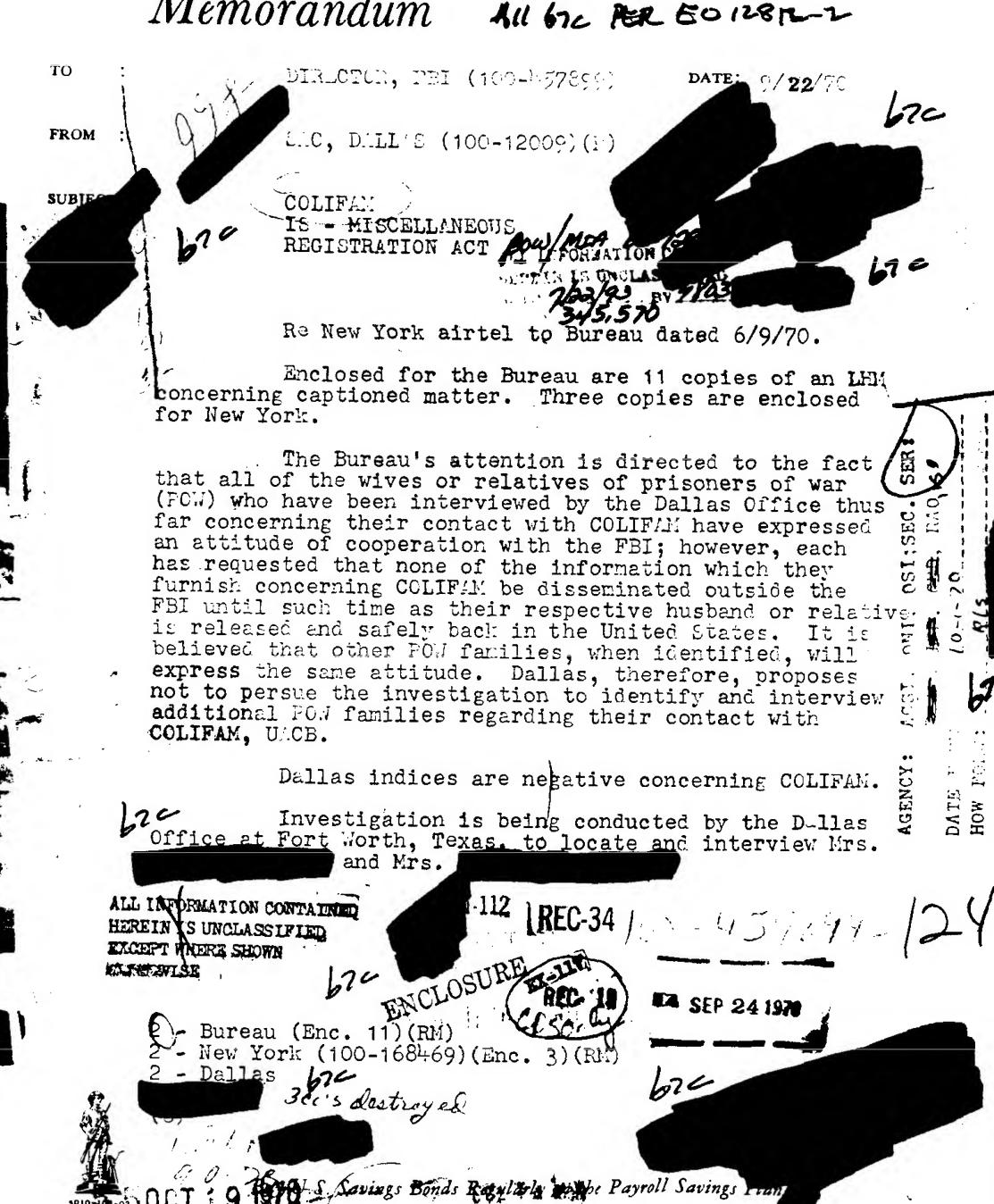
Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Shaw Air Force Base, South Clina, advised on September 3, 1970 he could furnish no all Clonal information concerning instant matter.



60.

UNITEL STATES COVERNMENT

# Memorandum



File No.

UN D ATES DEPARTMENT OF TI

F \_ JERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGA. JN

Dallas, Texas September 22, 1970

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN
NORTH VIETNAM

Confidential informants familiar with activities of groups in the Dallas, Texas area, who are opposed to the war in Vietnam, were contacted during the course of this investigation and could furnish no information regarding captioned organization.

POW/MIA EO-/25/2 100 CONTAIN 

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED MEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

# All bic PER 50 128/2-2

Date 8/28/70

United We Stand, Mr. Exchange Park, and that on September 16, 1969, he accompanied Mrs. Mrs. and wrs. all wives of prisoners of war (POW) being held in North Vietnam, to Paris, France, where they contacted a representative of the North Vietnam government who identified himself as Mr. TAM. He advised this person told him that if he really wanted to do something to help the POWs in North Vietnam, that he should return to the United States and contact RENNIE DAVIS or CORA WEISS. Further, that he should join the peace movement to end the war in Vietnam and the POWs would not be a problem.

Mr. stated that in November, 1969, the day before Thanksgiving, he filmed an interview with a Mr. GIAI, a representative of the North Vietnamese in Stockholm, Sweden, and this person also advised him to return to the United States and contact REMNIE DAVIS or CORA WEISS if he wanted to assist the POW families.

Mr. Sweden, on August 7, 1970, and again contacted a representative of the North Vietnamese. He stated this person refused to identify himself and told him to return to the United States and contact RENNIE DAVIS if he wanted to help the POWs. He advised he had a telephone conversation with a Swedish secretary who is employed at the North Vietnam Embassy in Stockholm and this person told him that he had been previously told how to help the POWs; that is, he should return to the United States and contact RENNIE DAVIS.

Ar. advised that he has worked with Mrs. and of the National League of Families of Friconers and Missing in Action in Southeast Asia, 1 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C., and that through this office the identities and addresses of all POWs whose families have been contacted by COLIFAM could be obtained.

On	8/19/70	at	Dallas, Texas		File #Dallas 100-12009
by .	SA		Pre	2	Date dictated 8/2½/70

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

•	, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
	1 All the PER EC 12812-2 Date 8/28/70
	Stand, Exchange Fera, advised he was in vientiane, Laos, in December, 1969, and whole from the airport to the hotel with CORA WEISS. We stated she had just returned from Hanoi on an ICC plane. The talked about her trip to Hanoi, her stay in a villa there and how well she was treated. Stated that WEISS told him that Hanoi was permitting POWs to communicate with their families and that the letters were going out; however, these letters were being confiscated by the CIA or State Department.  MEURER stated, in his opinion. WEISS actually believed this statement to be true. Stated that he asked this statement to be true. Stated that he asked the MEISS if she had brought out any letters from POWs and her reply was no. However, at a press conference in New York City at Christmas. 1969, she said she had brought mail out from the POWs! Advised that Mrs. Wife of advised that Mrs. Wife of advised that Mrs. Wife of the Mexicon was and MADELLEME DUCKLES, seeking information concenning their husbands; however, no information was believed to have been obtained. MEURER stated Mrs. Washington, D. C., phone head of POW Affairs in Washington.

File # D. 11as 100-12009 8/19/70 at Dallas, Texas \_Date dictated \_\_\_\_8/24/70 SAI

RE: COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM

601-81-

B, APPROL

On Algust 27, 1970, Mr. advised that Douglas B. Hegdahl, a Navy seaman, was released by Hanoi to Rennie Davis on August 5, 1969, and was brought back to the United States by Davis. He advised Herdahl was in Dallas for a conference with he and August 24-26, 1970. He stated that in interview with Hegdahl, Hegdahl explained that he had never seen or heard of Rennie Davis prior to his release to him and that after he returned to the United States, he had had no subsequent contact with Davis or COLIFAM. Meurer advised that Hegdahl thought he was chosen for release by the North Vietnamese because he was with the Navy, not a pilot, and was a very young boy, age 21, and just happened to be at a place where Davis could see him. Meurer explained that Hegdahl was cooperative, but would not do anything against COLIFAM or Davis for fear of jeopardizing lives of other POWs being held.

On August 28, 1970, Mrs.

Texas, advised her huseand,
has been missing in action
since October, 1900, and that she has never heard from him
since he was reported missing in action. She stated she
has had no communications or contacts with COLIFAM.

On August 28. 1970 Mr.

advised that his son,

North Vietnam and that his daughter-in-law had received a letter through COLIFAM; however, he did not wish to discuss the matter and neither did he want to furnish his daughter-in-law's address for fear that contact with her might jeopardize the life of his son.

Texas, advised that his sister's son was a POW in North vietnam. He stated his sister, this boy's mother, had received three letters through COLIFAM. The first letter was dated December 24, 1969, and was received in March, 1970. The second letter was received two weeks later. He stated that his sister then sent COLIFAM a \$25 contribution and subsequently received a letter of several pages which appeared to have come through without being censored as it contained language which any boy would write his mother.

61c

RE: COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH FAMILIES
OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM

identify either his sister or his nephew for fear of placing his nephew's life in jeopardy. He advised he would be glad to furnish the name of his nephew following his release and return to the United States provided this information is needed at that time.

On September 14, 1970, Mrs.

Texas, advised that her

Air Force, was reported missing in action 1969. She stated that she has been notified by the U.S. Air Force that they now believe he is a POW since they have located the crash-site of his airplane and no evidence was found to indicate he was deceased. She stated she has not received any correspondence through COLIFAM and neither has she been contacted by this organization.

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

	1 All bic PER 50 12812-3	Date 9/4/70
	Texas. advised that new laws are reported and the state of war.  In Morth vietnam by the S.S. April, 1967, the Air Force not was then believed to be a primaril, 1968, her husband's state of war.  In March, 1970, Mrs. received a call from STEWART is of letters had been received in letter from her husband.  Mrs. state the state of Liais through the Committee of Liais.	stated that she  stated that a packet  ros Hanoi which included a  ted that since receiving  ived six other letters all
	Mrs. stated sent to Randolph Air Force Bas writing had been verified.	that her letters had all been e where her husband's hand-
	has made two trips to Washingtowork as a member of the quoted in various news article the Committee of Liaison. Mrs are 184 prisoners of war being families reside in Texas.  Mrs. Stated to testify at any type of hear Committee of Liaison for fear	and has been  converning her opinion of advised that there here in North Vietnam whose  that she would not be willing ing against members of the of placing her husband's life e available copies of letters
On	8/27/70 at Texas	Fil. #Dallas 12009
by	8A 67C	Date dictated 8/31/70

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

'



; · (

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON 365 West 42nd Stroet New York, N.Y. 10036

#### WIND TEE OF LIAISON

Dear May

### with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS: COLIAFAM

o-chairmen: Dave Dellinger Coro Waiss

reasurer: Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee (in formation): Rennie Davis Rev. Richard Fernandez \*Maggie Geddes Steve Halliwell Stewart Meacham Prof. Bea Seitzman Ethel Taylor \*Berbara Webster Trudi Young

\*staff

lac E012812-2 Lac E012812-2 March 25. 1970

We have just received word from Eanci that

s letter from has been mailed to you from North Vietnam. name was included in a list of 80 servicemen just received; this list represents advance notice of 82 letters mailed together in a package due to arrive soon. As soon as it comes, we will forward it to you. Forgive this mimeographed communication, but we wanted you to know as quickly as rossible.

The Committee of Lisison was set up to fecilitate communication between men who are held in North Vietnam and their families in this country. You may be interested to know that since this new errangement was made with the North Victnamese in December, 376 letters have been sent from Hanoi through us to families, and that as of this

current notification 256 servicemen have been confirmed as held by the North Vietnamese. More mail is en route and it is expected that mail will soon be normalized.

The arrangement for mail is described in the announcement enclosed. We are very pleased to be able to perform this service and lope that you will feel free to be in touch with us should you have further questions. In the meantime we continue to work for the immediate and complete withdrawal of all troops from Vietnam: to bring to an end the fighting, killing and capturing: and to hasten the day when all families, American and Vietnamese will be reunited.

Sincerely yours,

Cora Weiss Dave Dellinger

Core Weiss Dave Dellinger

with Families of Servicemen Detained in Morth Vietnam

West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 1

(212) 765-1490

COLIAFAM

April 20, 1970

lo-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

reasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Richard J. Barnett
Rennie Davis
Madeline Duckles
Prof. Richard Folk
Rev. Richard Fernandez
Norman Fruchter
\*Maggie Geddes
Steve Halliwell
Prof. Donald Kalish
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Prof. Franz Schurmann
Ethel Taylor
\*Barbara Webster

\*staff

Trudi Young

Dear Mrs. 2012812-2

Rev. Richard Fernandez, a member of the Committee of Liaison, returned today from a tho-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. He brought back the enclosed letter along with 201 others from prisoners being held in North Vietnam.

While there, Rev. Fernandez held a lengthy interview with three pilots, Cdr. Robert Schweitzer, Cdr. Walter Wilber and Lt. Col. Edison Miller. He also was advised by North Vietnamese authorities that families should write letters monthly on the enclosed airletter forms. We are therefore sending several to you at this time and will send more with subsequent mail.

We are of course very pleased to be able to forward this letter to you.

Sincerely yours,

Steven E. Halliwell

321-3810

# with Families of Servicemen Detrined in North Vietnam

42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee

Richard J. Bornett
Rennie Davis
Madeline Duckles
Prof. Richard Falk
Rev. Richard Fernandez
Norman Fruchter
\*Maggie Geddes
Steve Halliwell
Prof. Donald Kalish
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Prof. Franz Schurmann
Ethel Taylor
\*Barbara Webster
Trudi Young

Dear Mo



620 12812 -x

We're very happy to forward this letter to you which just arrived from North Vietnam along with St others.

We know it's been a long time since you were informed that this letter was en route, but it's a long trip and we too are delighted that they've arrived.

Sincerely,

Barbara Websth Maggie Gel

Barbara Webster Maggie Geddes for the Committee of Linison

\*staff

with Familia of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

5. Hc 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 1002 /

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

June 14, 1970

Committee

Richard J. Barnett
Rennie Davis
Madeline Duckles
Prof. Richard Falk
Rev. Richard Fernandez
Norman Fruchter
\*Maggie Geddes
Steve Holliwell
Prof. Donald Kalish
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Prof. Franz Schurmann
Ethel Taylor
\*Barbara Webster
Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear friend:

We are very glad to send you the enclosed letter from North Vietnam. It, along with 142 others, was brought to this country by Jean Palomdon, Nancy Rubin and Judy Claver -- anti-war activists who spent two weeks in North Vietnam.

The letters were slightly delayed in getting here because all the material they brought back with them, including the letters, was confiscated by the Canadian Customs upon their arrival in Montreal. This was totally unexpected and unprecedented; but they generated enough pressure so that everything was returned to them.

There will be another group going to North Vietnam at the end of this month. If you would like them to take a letter from you, please send it to us in the next week or so.

Sincerely,

Barbara Webster

Barbara Webster



#### DIMITTEE OF LIMISON

## with Familia of Servicemen Detail of to North Victnem

365 nest 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 1003c

(212) 765-1490

June 25, 1970

4BLE ADDRESS: COLIAFAM

o-chairmen: Dave Dellinger I Coro Weiss

Dear friend:

easurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

We are very happy to send you the enclosed letter. It, along with 105 others, was brought back to this country by a group of anti-war people who have just returned from a visit to North Vietnam.

Richard J. Barnett
Rennie Davis
Madeline Duckles
Prof. Richard Falk
Rev. Richard Fernandez
Norman Fruchter
\*Maggie Geddes
Steve Halliwell
Prof. Donald Kalish
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Prof. Franz Schurmann
Ethel Taylor
\*Barbara Webster

This brings to a total of 1,110 letters which the Committee of Liaison has for-warded on to families since last December.

Sincerely,

Barbara Webster

Barbara Webster

\*staff

Trudi Young

"Ye 2nd Street, New York, N.Y. 1

(212) 765-1490

COLIAFAM

May 4, 1970

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

reasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee Richard J. Barnett Rennie Davis Madeline Duckles Prof. Richard Falk Rev. Richard Fernandez Norman Fruchter \*Maggie Goddes Steve Halliwell Prof. Donald Kalish Stewart Meacham Prof. Bea Seitzman Prof. Franz Schurmann Ethel Taylor \*Barbara Webster Trudi Young

\*staff

From: Rev. Richard Fernandez

To: The families of the 335 presently confirmed

prisoners held in North Vietnam

Re: Information on correspondence with prisoners

On April 20th I returned from a threc-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. In North Vietnam I spoke with officials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families here. The following information was emphasized to me by the North Vietnamese authorities and we are anxious to make sure that you are aware of it:

- 1) The Vietnamese recommend that families use the air-letter form (enclosed) for correspondence.
- 2) Communication to pilots should be limited to matters of family and health.
- 3) Pilots are allowed to receive one letter per month and one package every other month (not over six pounds in weight).

Detention Camp authorities have said that they do not wish to receive several letters and/or packages per month for a given pilot from different members of the same family. Families should make arrangements for alternating letters each month if different members

want to write.

The North Vietnamese authorities indicated that, from this point forward, they will not feel responsible for forwarding letters and packages that do not adher to the above.

If the letter form is mailed directly it can go in another envelope but the mail route, "via Moscow, U.S.S.R.," should definitely be included in the address. If letters are sent to the Committee of Liaison for forwarding please enclose but do not affix stamps as we send letter on in packets. The Committee cannot forward packages for families.

While I was in Hanoi, Prof. Douglas Dowl of Cornell University and I met with three pilots: Cdr. Robert Schweitzer of Lemoore, California; Cdr. Walter Wilbur of Virginia Beach and Lt. Col. Edison Miller of Santa Ana, California. The three men were in good health, and said they had daily exercise and reading material. The three pilots advised us that they had been getting letters and packages from their

families, and asked that packages include toilet articles and canned foods. In particular they mentioned soap, shaving cream (no razors or blades), toothpaste, powdered milk and cream, instant coffee and non-melting candy. They said they do not need clothes.

Also, in my discussions with the Vietnam Committee of Solidarity with the American People, the Committee of Liaison's contact in North Vietnam, we confirmed that since December over 800 letters have been sent from Hanoi through the Committee of Liaison. Of those, 156 letters are still on their way from Hanoi to families here.

We hope that this information clarifies some aspects of correspondence for you. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1	1 All by POR ED 12812-2 y brate	/4/70
_	i he T	
		loyed at
	Air Force, was reported missing in action by the	y.B.
	January 19, 1967. She advised that his status	
	to a prisoner of war in October, 1969. She sta	_
	change was based on information furnished by a	
***	war who had been released.	
	670	
	Mrs. stated that in March, 197	
	a letter from the Committee of Lizison stating	
T.	that a package of letters had been received fro	Hanoi Which
	included a letter from her husband. Mrs.	
	subsequently she received a telephone call from WEBSTER, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, advising t	
	just had word that a letter from her husband, a	
_	war in North Vietnam, had been received and was	
	forwarded to her. She stated she received this	
	March 11, 1970, and it was the first and only 1	etter that
8	she had received from her husband since he was	reported
	missing in action. She advised the letter was	
	December 23, 1969, and was postmarked December	
	Mrs. stated that since receiving this fi	
	she has received two other letters from her hus	band through
V' C	the Committee of Liaison.	
	Mrs. stated she does not appro	ve of the
U	U. S. Government permitting the Committee of Li	mison to
	deal with the Hanoi government; however, she di	
	any of the information which she furnished the	
ď	disseminated outside of the FBI for fear of ret	aliation
	against her husband. She advised she would not	
t	to testify against members of the Committee of	Liaison.
	620	aldah ala
_	Mrs. stated that the letters were received from her husband and from the Committee	
	have been forwarded to Randolph Air Force Base,	
**	maye been relatived to mandelph will relice base,	LEAD.
On 8	8/28/70 of Texas File # Dall	as 100-12009
	b7c	
_		0.400.400
ьу	SA Date dictated_	8/31/70

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

On.

SA

at

DERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGA

# All be RE 50 /2812-2

Date 9/2/70

1 Mrs. advised that her husband. United States Air Force Serial Social Security Number Number southeast of Hanoi, shot down 1965. She stated that he was flying an unarmed trainer helicopter. CH 3C (Jolly Green Giant). She advised that he was reported 1967, at which time his missing in action until status was changed by the United States Air Force to POW. She advised that in early 1970, she received a telegram from OLAF PALME, Prime Minister of Sweden, advising that the North Vietnamese had confirmed that her husband was alive and was a She stated following this she received a letter from BARBARA WEBSTER of the Committee of Liaison stating that a package of letters had been received from Hanoi that included a letter from her husband. She stated this letter was forwarded to her and was received April 24, 1970. She stated this was the first communication she had received from her husband since he was renorted missing in action. She stated that subsequent to this, she has received no letters from her husband and now feels that her public criticism of the Committee of Liaison had stopped all letters from her husband. She stated that the other wives and families of POW's were receiving monthly letters. Mrs. advised that she has written the Committee of Liaison several letters asking for an explanation as to why she is not receiving any communications from her husband and on July 30, 1970, received a letter from BARBARA WEBSTER giving a rather innocuous explanation for this. stated that she made a trip to Paris France, September, 1969, with She stated that they contacted a representative of the North vietnamese named XNAN OAHN at the "Compound" at Chois La Roc who appeared to be interested in helping them make contact with their husbands. She stated that OAHN also gave them 8/26/70 Texas

Dallas 100-12009 File # New York 100-168469 620

-Date dictated ----

16

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBl. It is the property of the FBl and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

DL 100-12009

the name of "RENARD DAVIS, Committee of Liaison, 365 West 42nd Street, New York, New York" and told them that they should contact DAVIS. She stated that they were also told that they should return to the United States and "remain quiet or gather the masses to protest American intervention in South Vietnam."

stated that she and the above mentioned wives returned to Paris in November, 1969, and XNAN OAHN was no longer assigned to the North Vietnamese She stated that they contacted a man, MY VAN BO, Compound. at the North Vietnamese Embassy in Paris. She stated that he refused to identify himself and claimed that their husbands should be prosecuted as "air pirates and war criminals and did not deserve human treatment". She stated this man told them to tell their children that their fathers did not deserve human treatment under the Geneva rules. She stated that this man accused them of being United States Agents and that they were sent to Paris by the United States Government in an effort to make the North Vietnamese look bad. She advised that they them went to Stockholm, Sweden, where they had a conference with OLAF PALME but he was unable to furnish any help or information concerning their husbands. In Stockholm, she stated they contacted a LEKY GIAI, a North Vietnamese representative who gave them the "same line", also telling them to return to the United States and join in the protest of the American intervention in the war in South Vietnam.

Mrs. Stated that she was willing to furnish this information to the FBI but would not appear as a witness until such time as her husband was released and was in the United States. Mrs. furnished correspondence that she had received from the Committee of Liaison.

bre

# COMMITTEE OF LIAISON

# with Families of Servicemen Detaine in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen:
Deve Dellinger
Cara Weiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee Richard J. Barnett Rennie Davis Madeline Duckles Prof. Richard Folk Rev. Richard Fernandez Norman Fruchter \*Maggie Geddes Steve Holliwell Prof. Donald Kalish Stewart Meacham Prof. Bed Seitzman Prof. Franz Schurmann Ethel Taylor \*Barbara Webster Trudi Young

\*staff

Dear Mrs. 6012812-2

We will give your letter to your husband to Some Americans who will be meeting with some North Vietnamere in August. I am afraid we do not know one Way or the other Whether a letter gets delivered or not. We assume that if letters follow the north Vietnameris Suggestions (using the letter farm writing once a month and only about family and health, etc), their the letters are received by the prisoners. We have not received any word at all from the north Vietnamese regarding Why some prisoners write more than Others! I assume there be several reasons such as: purely administrative problems such as a shortage if franslature living he more of a problem at one clutention camp than at another); the inevitable problems in any preson situation where, for example, letter, writing is a privilege which may be. Haken andy for disciplinary reasons or the prison himself may be in such a "funk"

18

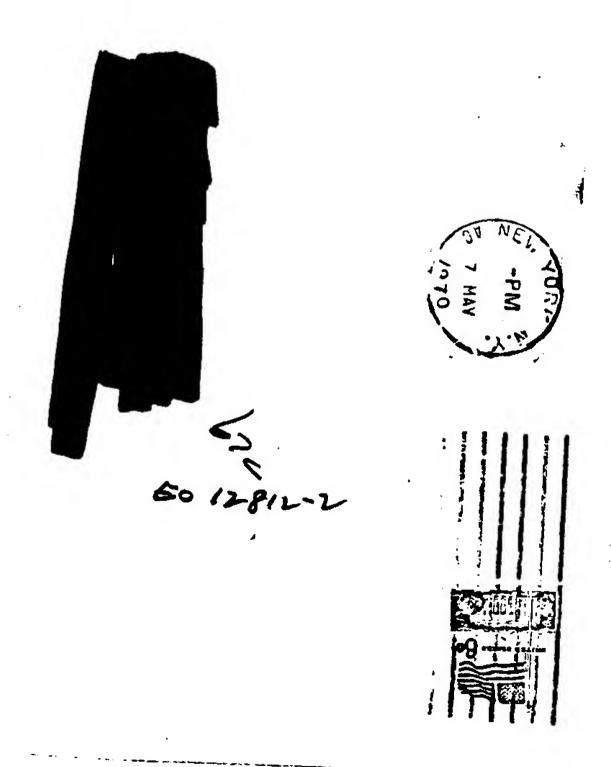
AND THE REPORT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PROPERTY

that he just does not murite often or at and, when the problem particularly inherent in a prisoner of war situation where the presence may try to pass information out so those letters are just not sent. I want to stress that we do not know if any of those are true in this situation in general or in your hustands case in particular. I just support them as any of these are in particular. Suggest them so possibilities.

there are several wines or parente who have received either no better at all or just one or two, so your is not an isolated care. hot an isolated cone.

Do bet us know when you need more of the letter

Aricerely Barbara Welleker



#### COMMITTEE OF LIAIS ON

# with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen:
Dave Dellinger
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee Richard J. Barnett Rennie Davis Madeline Duckles Prof. Richard Falk Rev. Richard Fernandez Norman Fruchter \*Maggie Geddes Steve Halliwell Prof. Donald Kalish Stewart Meacham Prof. Bea Seitzman Prof. Franz Schurmann Ethel Taylor \*Borbara Webster Trudi Young

Dear Mus. ED 12812-7

We're very happy to forward this letter to you which just arrived from North Vietnam slong with %! others.

We know it's been a long time since you were informed that this letter was en route, but it's a long trip and we too are delighted that they've arrived.

Sincerely,

Barbara Webster Maggie 60

Barbara Webster Maggie Geddes for the Committee of Lisison

\*staff

# COMMITTEE OF L. .ISON

### with Families & Servicemen Detains in North Vietnal

7

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS: COLIAFAM

May 4, 1970

Co-chairmen:

Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

Treasurer:

Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee

Richard J. Barnett
Rennie Davis
Madeline Duckles
Prof. Richard Falk
Rev. Richard Fernandez
Norman Fruchter
\*Maggie Geddes
Steve Halliwell
Prof. Donald Kalish
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Prof. Franz Schurmann
Ethel Taylor
\*Barbara Webster
Trudi Young

\*staff

From: Rev. Richard Fernandez

To: The families of the 335 presently confirmed

prisoners held in North Vietnam

Re: Information on correspondence with prisoners

On April 20th I returned from a three-week trip to Laos and North Vietnam. In North Vietnam I spoke with officials responsible for communication between pilots held in detention there and their families here. The following information was emphasized to me by the North Vietnamese authorities and we are anxious to make sure that you are aware of it:

- 1) The Vietnamese recommend that families use the sir-letter form (enclosed) for correspondence.
- 2) Communication to pilots should be limited to matters of family and health.
- 3) Pilots are allowed to receive one letter per month and one package every other month (not over six pounds in weight).

Detention Camp authorities have said that they do not wish to receive several letters and/or packages per month for a given pilot from different members of the same family. Families should make arrangements for alternating letters each month if different members

want to write.

The North Vietnamese authorities indicated that, from this point forward, they will not feel responsible for forwarding letters and packages that do not adher to the above.

If the letter form is mailed directly it can go in another envelope but the mail route, "via Moscow, U.S.S.R.," should definitely be included in the address. If letters are sent to the Committee of Liais for forwarding please enclose but do not affix stamps as we send lett on in packets. The Committee cannot forward packages for families.

While I was in Hanoi, Prof. Douglas Dow! of Cornell University and I met with three pilots: Cdr. Robert Schweitzer of Lemoore, California; Cdr. Walter Wilbur of Virginia Beach and Lt. Col. Edison Miller of Santa Ana, California. The three men were in good health, and said they had daily exercise and reading material. The three pilots advised us that they had been getting letters and packages from their

Richard Fernandez memo - page 2

families, and asked that packages include toilet articles and canned foods. In particular they mentioned soap, shaving cream (no razors or blades), toothpaste, powdered milk and cream, instant coffee and non-melting candy. They said they do not need clothes.

Also, in my discussions with the Vietnam Committee of Solidarity with the American People, the Committee of Liaison's contact in North Vietnam, we confirmed that since December over 800 letters have been sent from Hanoi through the Committee of Liaison. Of those, 156 letters are still on their way from Hanoi to families here.

We hope that this information clarifies some aspects of correspondence for you. If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

in interview advised that her husband,

Serial Number was reported missing in 1965. She stated that she action (MIA) in Vietnam. was notified by the Air Force in January, 1967, that his status had been changed to a prisoner of war (POW). She stated that she heard nothing from her husband during this time. She advised in April, 1970, she received a telephone call from a person who identified herself as ETHEL TAYLOR. that a packet of letters had been received from Hanoi and among these letters was a letter from her husband.

made a five-day trip to Paris, France, September 14, 1969. She stated this trip was arranged by Congressman OLIN TEAGUE. She advised that in Paris they called upon the North Vietnamese delegation and the representative whose name she was not able to recall but was referred to as "TOM" assured all of them that he would do all he could to arrange for the men being held as prisoners of war in North Vietnam to correspond with their families in the United States. She advised that they were given the name of RENNIE DAVIS and his address in New York and were told that they should contact him on their return to the United States. She advised that in a separate conversation they were told that the POW's in North Vietnam were being permitted to write their families but the United States Government was confiscating these letters. She stated she was also told that a film had been made by the North Vietnamese showing the POW's, their activities, and living quarters, but this film had also been confiscated and was not ever shown.

stated that she had heard that the wife of the nenhew of

whose nusuand was a POW sent the Committee or Liaison a check for \$25 after she received a letter from her husband through the committee. She stated that subsequent to this, this wife received a six page uncensored letter from her husband. 62c

0	8/31/70	Texas	File # .	Dallas 100-12009
On	SA T	12 V		New York 100-168469
by	SA		Date di	ctated 9/1/70

24 This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBL. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to

your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency. All boc FER ED 12812-2

#### DL 100-12009

she sent the committee her check for \$10 and stated that she was interested in going to Hanci as a relative of a POW and expressed some interest in the North Vietnamese. She stated that she did this solely for the purpose of trying to establish contact with her husband and very definitely that she was not in sympathy with the way the Committee of Liaison was working with the North Vietnamese in Hanoi.

Mrs. stated that she would work with "the devil" if this would help in her communication with her husband.

Mrs. stated that she did not want any of the information furnished by her disseminated outside the FBI and that she would not testify against the Committee of Liaison for fear of retaliation by the North Vietnamese.

Mrs. furnished copies of pertinent letters she had received from the Committee of Liaison which are as follows:

#### Commentee of Limison

with Fourities of Strongers Ostoland in North Vietners

365 West 42nd Street New York N.Y. 1000.5

212-765-1490

January, 1970

Co-chairman: Dave Dellinger Corp Waiss

\*Earbara Webster \*Trudi Young

staff

Treasurer:

INFORDATION SHEET

#### Background

In the course of the Viernam war, links have been Mrs. Anne Bennett built between the people of Vietnam and Americans who oppose the war through numerous meetings and Committee (in formation): conferences. These meetings have taken place in Rennie Davis Europe, Canada, Cuba and Southeast Asia and have Rev. Richard Fernandez \*Maggie Goddes included people from both the Democratic Republic Steve Halliwell of Vietnam (North Vietnam) and the National Libera-Stewart Meacham tion Front of SouthVietnam (now part of the Provi-Prof. Bes Seitzman sional Revolutionary Government). Ethel Taylor

> In these meetings the Vietnamese have always stressed a distinction between the U.S. government, whom they hold responsible for the policy of war, and the U.S.

prople, whom they believe still value the goals upon which this country was founded--independence, justice, freedom and equality. This same distinction is evident to those Americans who have visited North Vietnam and found that even though the nation is armed to defend itself, the people are encouraged by their government to believe that the American puople are basically decent and humane.

It is therefore understandable that the Vietnamese should indicate their basic confidence in the American people through the peace movement which they believe embodies American ideals, rather than the government. And in the past, the Vietnamese have asked the peace movement to receive U.S. servicemen--primarily pilots whose planes were shot down--when the North Vietnamese government has decided to release them. On three separate occasions -- February 1968, July 1968 and July 1969 -- the peace movement has gone to Hanoi and returned with released servicemen; on one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia to receive three released NLP captives.

In addition, Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters there at the request of families, and have brought back letters from servicemen. There have also been occasions when American peace activists have met prisoners and talked with them.

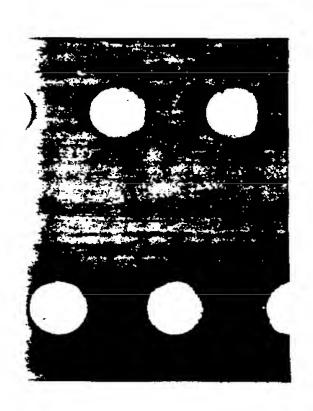
#### Punctions of the Committee

A Committee of Liaison has now been established as an extension of these past efforts at the request of the North Vietnamese. As on past occasions, the peace movement is responding to a request by the Vietnamese to meet a specific, immediate need and is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam.

gook to facilitate communication between jenilies whe was and servicemen now imprisoned in North Vietnam. Basically, the Committee will receive letters from servicemen and forward them through the domestic mails, thereby decreasing, we hope, past problems in the receipt of such mail. We will also forward letters to North Vietnam at the request of relatives. Families are of course still free to send letters and parcels directly but should note that the instructions on mailing previously issued by the State Department are wrong. The correct address is:

> name of serviceman serial number Camp of Detention of U.S. Pilots Captured in the D.R.V. Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam

via Moscow, U.S.S.R.



INFORMATION SHEET - page 2

requests for information about servicemen from families who are uncertain if their relatives are being held in North Vietnam. Requests should be submitted to the Committee, but there is no certainty when and if the North Vietnamese will be able to respond. The Committee will of course transmit immediately any information that it receives to the family.

#### Clarification

Two clarifications are in order: first, it should be noted that the Committee will be dealing relicity with the government of North Vietnam and will not have any information on men held in South Vietnam by the Provisional Revolutionary Government. Nor will we be able to provide information at this time concerning men held in Laos or any other South east Asian country where U.S. troops and aircraft are presently involved in combat missions.

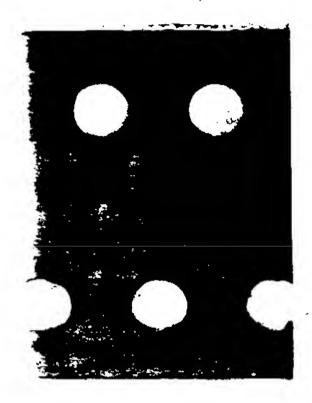
Secondly, the Committee will function entirely apart from the U.S. government. The U.S. government has frequently made it more difficult for the Vietnamese to be open to the concerns of American families by using the families' genuine desires as a propaganda ploy. The government has further attempted to provoke an angry response from the Vietnamese by publicizing unsubstantiated and inflammatory testimony from fliers already released: apparently, the government has decided to jeopardize existing communications and the possibility of future releases for the sake of propaganda aimed at prolonging the war. The North Vietnamese are also very aware that the U.S. government's claims of humanitarian concerns are contradicted by the well-documented policy of torture and brutality practiced on prisoners taken in the South by U.S. and Saigon troops.

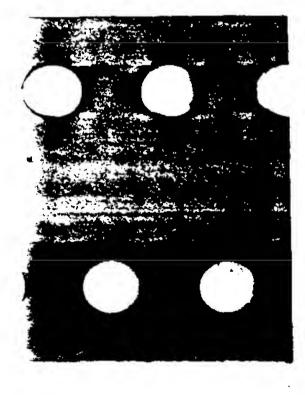
In addition to all these factors, there is the simple fact that the resolution of the fate of all the servicemen now held in North Victnem waits ultimately upon a U.S. decision to end the war and withdraw all its forces and material.

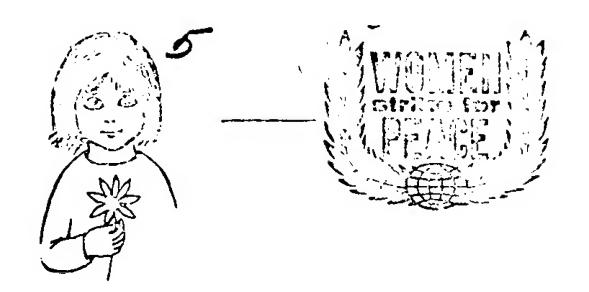
#### Who We Are

We firmly believe that the safe return of these men and the half million others that the U.S. maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand and aboard naval vessels—who can also be viewed as prisoners, prisoners of their own government since many have been sent to fight in a war against the dictates of their own conscience—can only come with a decision on the part of the U.S. government to withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will continue our efforts to create popular pressure strong enough to force the government to withdraw.

We are active in a variety of organizations committed to ending the war: American Friends Service Committee, the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, Clergy and Laymen Concerned about Vietnam, Women Strike for Peace, The Conspiracy, and Women Against Daddy Warbucks. The Committee is supported by donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.



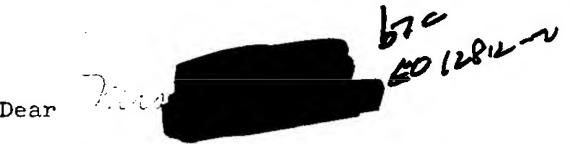




TWENLY SOUTH TWELFTH STREET

PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19107 Telephone: 561-2636

January 21, 1970



I am sorry that it has taken me so long to write to you but I've been waiting until I could make definite suggestions to you and now I am pleased to say I can.

I regret very much that I did not bring back a letter for you but now an organization has been set up between the Peace Movement and Hanoi specifically for the purpose of forwarding mail and forwarding inquiries regarding prisoners from the immediate family.

The organization is the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam and is located at 365 W. 42nd Street, New York City, N.Y., 10036.

I am a member of this Committee. Please do not hesitate to contact me for any reason.

Cordially,

Mrs. William Taylor

Ether Taylor

1505 Ashford Way Phila., Pa., 19151 MI 2-9078 (Area Code 215)

P.S. You will shortly receive information directly from the Committee of Liaison with details of its operation.

# with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnen

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

CABLE ADDRESS: COLIAFAM

Co-chairmen: Dave Dellinger Cora Weiss

Treosurer: Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee (in formation): Rennie Davis Rev. Richard Fernandez \*Maggie Geddes \*Steve Halliwell Stewart Meacham Prof. Bec Seitzman Ethel Taylor \*Barbera Webster \*Trudi Young

\*stoff

January 27, 1970 (212) 765-1490 Dear Tits

Ethel Taylor, a member of our newly-formed committee, which will facilitate communication between American servicemen hell in North Vietnam and their families, has asked us to contact you. We are enclosing an Information Sheet describing the Committee of Liaison.

We have also duplicated the enclosed letter form which you may wish to use in writing your relative. The North Vietnamese have said that prisoners can send and receive one letter per month and one package (not more than six pounds in weight) every other month. Note the address and mail route given in the Information Sheet.

If you would like us to try to find out if your relative is a prisoner in North Vietnam, send his full name, service number and any details you have on when and where he was shot down. We will then transmit the inquiry to the North Vietnamese and are hopeful of receiving a response to every request made.

It is important to understand that there undoubtedly were many pilots whose planes were shot down but whom the North Vietnamese could not rescue, and that there are prisoners held by the Provisional Revolutionary Government in South Vietnam and by the Pathet Lao in Laos about whom we are not able to get information.

We understand your anguish in not knowing about your relative and we sincerely hope we can be of help in getting information about him for you.

Sincerely, Barbara Webster Barbara Webster

P.S. We apologize for sending a mimeographed letter but we wanted to get this word to you as quickly as possible.

# with Families of Servicemen Detained in Morth Vietnan

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen:
Dave Dellinger
Cora Weiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee
Richard J. Barnett
Rennie Davis
Madeline Duckles
Prof. Richard Felk
Rev. Richard Fernandez
Norman Fruchter
\*Maggie Geddes
Steve Halliwell
Prof. Donald Kalish

Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman
Prof. Franz Schurmann
Ethel Taylor
\*Barbara Webster
Trudi Young

\*stafi

Dear Mirs. Sursel to let you know that the letter you send us on May 3 for your headand was taken to Horth. Vecturen with a gray of audi-war people who left here on the 11th.

Sincerely. Barbara Website.

# COMMITTEE OF L ISDR

## with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnan

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

Dear Mrs.

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairmen:
Dave Dellinger
Cora Veiss

Treasurer:
Mrs. Anne Bennett

Committee Richard J. Bornett Rennie Davis Modeline Duckles Prof. Richard Falk Rev. Richard Fernandez Norman Fruchter \*Maggie Geddes Steve Halliwell Prof. Donald Kalish Stewart Meacham Prof. Bea Seitzman Prof. Franz Schurmann Ethal Taylor \*Barbara Webster Trudi Young

\*staff

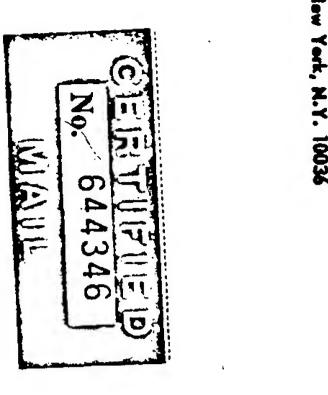
bro August 13, 1970

Thank you for your letter of August 1st and for your thoughtfulness in sending a contribution to our work. The letter to your husband will be taken to North Vietnam by a group which leaves here this Monday.

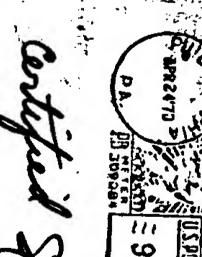
Yes, we have been approached by other wives regarding the possibility of going to Hanoi. Invitations to go there come from the North Vietnamese, and they have been to people who represent various anti-war groups, as well as to some newsmen -- people who will return to this country and then talk and write about their visit, hopefully hastening the day the U.S. completely withdraws from Vietnam. In the event (highly unlikely, I would think) that they decide they would like to invite a relative of a prisoner we will keep your request in mind.

Barbara Webster

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON
365 West 42nd Street
New York, N.Y. 10036







5 12812-2

Del

RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

NGU'O'I GU'I (Addressor)	Carlotte Control of the Control of t
HO TEN (Name in full):	bre
NOTI VÀ NGÀY SINH (Date & place of	EO USA-2.
and an anal sinn (Date & place of	Dirth):

#IA CHÎ (Address):

TRẠI GIAM PHI CÔNG MỸ BỊ BẮT TẠI NƯỚC VIỆT-NAM DÂN CHỦ CỘNG HÒA

(Camp of detention for U.S. pilots captured in the DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC of VIETNAM)

GÜI (Allressee)

HO TEN (Name in full):	6012812-2
EJA CHÎ (Address):	
	***************************************
	1) * 1 1 2 * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

MEAY VIET (Dated) Dumber 13, 1169

#### SHI CHÚ (N.B.):

- 4. Phải viết rõ và chỉ được viết trên những đồng kẻ sắn (Write legibly and only on the lines).
- 2. Trong thur chi được nói về tình hình sức khỏe và tình hình gia đình (Write only about health and family).
- 3. Gia dình gửi đến cũng phải theo đúng mẫu, khuôn khổ và quy định này (Letters from families should also conform to this proforms).

By

# All 676 PER EO 12812-2

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE OFFICE OF ORIGIN DATE INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD MILWAUKEE NEW YORK 9/18/70 7/20 - 9/14/70 TITLE OF CASE TYPE REPORT MADE BY COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH CHARACTER UF CASE FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM) IS - MISCELLANEOUS; REGISTRATION ACT 620 Reference New York airtel to Bureau dated 6/9/70. San Antonio letter to Bureau dated 8/27/70. 100/MIN Special ED ESTE 1/22/23 5103 Administrative Referenced San Antonio letter, 8/27/70, set forth a L2 list of Air Force personnel listed as prisoners of war or missing in action, as obtained 8/26/70, from Lieutenant Colonel ARCHIE GRATCH, U. S. Air Force Chief, Missing Persons Bureau, Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. Those persons contained on this list not already known to the Milwaukee Office are as follows: ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED ACQUIT-CASE HAS BEEN: TALS CONVIC. AUTO. FINES SAVINGS RECOVERIES PENDING OVER ONE YEAR THE THE PENDING PROSECUTION YES . OVER SIX MONTHS SPECIAL AGENT DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW APPROVED IN CHARGE COPIES MADE: Bureau (100-457899) (RM) REC-- New York (100-168469) (RM) 10 SEP 24 1970 620 - Milwaukee (100-17068) CC910-D. Notations Dissemination Record of Attached Report Agency RHC 75 MALE INFORMATION CONT Request Recd. HEREIN IN UNCE LEGITATION Date Fwd. ex(xept wh IL SAUTA How Fw K-THEFT ST

670

Major DONALD W. DOWNING, Missing In Action (MIA) Parents Mr. and Mrs. Wis.

Major STANLEY H. HORNE, MIA Wife Mrs. Wis.

Lieutenant Colonel GORDON A. LARSON, Prisoner of War (P Mother

Wis.

Captain LANCE P. SIJAN, MIA Parents Mr. and Mrs. Wis.

> Captain ROBERT D. TRIER. MIA Parents Mr. and Mrs. Wis.

Colonel ROBERT F. WILKE, MIA Mother Mrs. WIS.

Captain PATRICK E. WYNNE, MIA Wife Mrs. Wis.

Leads

### MILWAUKEE:

1

Will interview following relatives of servicemen missing in action or prisoners of war in North Vietnam:

> AT WIS.

Family of

(set forth in memo, 7/20/70)

B COVER PAGE

	AT WIS.	620
	Family of	USAF
	(set forth in memo, $7/20/70$ )	
منتشنية	AT WIS.	
	Mr. and Mrs.	bre
	A1 WIS.	
	Mrs.	bre
	AT WIS.	
	Mrs. 674	
	AT WIS.	
	Mrs. 67 c	
	AT WIS.	
	Mr. and Mrs.	120
	Mr. and Mrs.	
	Mrs.	

# UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All by FER EU 12812-2

Copy to:

Report of:

Date:

SA TOPO

September 18, 1970

Field Office File #:

100-17068

Bureau File #: 100-457899

Mi lwaukee

Thie:

COMMITTEE OF LIAISON WITH

FAMILIES OF SERVICEMEN DETAINED

IN NORTH VIETNAM (COLIFAM)

Characters

INTERNAL SECURITY - MISCELLANEOUS;

REGISTRATION ACT

Synopsis:

On 6/4/70, MARY WINN, a representative of Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM), talked to three families of servicemen imprisoned in North Vietnam at American Red Cross headquarters, Milwaukee, Wis. The "Milwaukee Journal" for 6/26/70 set forth the names of five Wisconsin servicemen furnished by COLIFAM as being prisoners in North Vietnam.

Wis., received two
letters from her nusband, imprisoned in North
Vietnam, through COLIFAM in May 1970. On 4/20/70,
a letter was delivered in person to Mrs.
by Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ and on 12/24/69 two
letters were delivered in person by CORA WEISS,
both of whom had just returned from North Vietnam.
Mr. and Mrs.
in contact with COLIFAM through a form letter, received
three letters from their son. a prisoner in North
Vietnam.

Wis., after
contact with COLIFAM through form letters has

bre

Vietnam.

Wis., after contact with Collisam through form letters, has received three letters and a postcard from her husband, a prisoner in North Vietnam.

Details:

9 ms A 50 - 128/2 345,510

MALL INFORMATION CONTAINED -HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED -EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN

CLEWISE

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

by SA

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

purpose of the specific eral. Mr.	the interview, conducting this request of J. W. stated he	he interview a later vacality	sconsin, was ing Agent and was advised that a result of , Assistant Atto	
L? Mr.	states he billion with Far	has had no tilies of Ser	contact with the vicemen Detained	bre
n requests ntry and to sing in Vi- sing in Vi- sual proble far to have ised there Vicinal Southeast	IN from Minneapold by the Department alk to vives and etnam or known to me regarding mines them repatriate were three relatives and Mrs.  Whose son, war in North Viet in North Viet Asia, and Mr.	is, Minnesot of Defense relatives of Defense of Service and At the tives of Service in Vietnam.  League of Fabelleves	a, and who has to tour the f military perso rs of war, discu- men and action t meeting, Mr. vicemen missing  IS 8 son,  Mrs. WINN is milies of Prison this effice is	aken b
	•	bre		
	rised of to purpose of Agent was specific eral. Mr. sent to assert to assert to assert to assert to have and in the sent to have and in the sent to have sent to	purpose of the interview. Agent was conducting this specific request of J. W. Stated he sent to an interview.  Mr. States he mittee of Linison with Farmittee of Linison in Vietnam or known wall problems regarding mind far to have them repatriated is and Mr. Whose son, soner of war in North Vietnam of War in North V	rised of the identity of the interview purpose of the interview. Mr. Agent was conducting this interview a specific request of J. WALTER YAGGEY eral. Mr. Stated he understood sent to an interview.  Mr. States he has had no mittee of Liaison with Families of Ser Morth Vietnam (COLIFAN).  He did state, however, that on MARY WINN from Minneapolis, Minnesot in requested by the Department of Defensing in Vietnam or known to be prisoned unal problems regarding missing services far to have them repatriated. At the ised there were three relatives of servicinam, and the ised there were three relatives of servicinam, and mr. Whose son, some of war in North Vietnam, and a whose solutions of the Massing in Vietnam.	Mr.  Misconsin, was rised of the interview, Mr.  Misconsin, was purpose of the interview. Mr.  Mass advised that agent was conducting this interview as a result of specific request of J. WALTER YRAGLEY, Assistant Attornal. Mr.  Stated he understood this and would sent to an interview.  Mr.  Mr.  Matter he has had no contact with the mittee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained North Vietnam (COLIFAE).  He did state, however, that on June 4, 1970, a make with from Minneapolis, Minnesota, and who has a requested by the Department of Defense to tour the nervy and talk to wives and relatives of military personal problems regarding missing servicemen and action to far to have them repatriated. At the meeting, Mr. ised there were three relatives of servicemen missing victnam. Mr. and Mrs.  Whose son, soner of war in North Vietnam, and a whose son, soner of war in North Vietnam. And a whose son, soner of war in North Vietnam. Mrs. Winn is occlated with the Mational League of Families of Prison Southeast Asia, and Mr.  Delieves this effice is retered in the Minneapolis—St. Paul, Minnesota, area.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

7/14/70

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date _	July	31,	1970
			a ,~
	11	.1~	81~-~

1

Military Families, American Red Cross, 2600 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, Wis., was apprised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the purpose of the interview.

was informed that this interview was requested by J. WALTER YEAGLEY. Assistant Attorney General, and that this investigation is undertaken to develop the fact that the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) is acting within the United States at the request of the Government of North Vietnam and is involved in political activity under the Foreign Agents Registration Act or as a publicity agent, as described stated that on June 4, 1970, a by the Act. came to the mirwaukee chapter of the American Red Cross, 2600 West Wisconsin Avenue, and gave a talk concerning servicemen who are detained in North Vietnam. She spoke to approximately three individuals who had relations detained in North Vietnam. stated she had a means of contacting the relatives of the persons in attendance by a specially prepared form letter, which was to be filled out and sent to the Camp of Detention for United States Pilots captured in the Democratic Republic of Vietnam. This was to be sent to Moscow, U.S.S.R. This form was given, Miss said, by COLIFAM.

At the end of the speech, Mr. asked Mrs. for a form letter that would be used in contacting servicemen in North Vietnam. said she had one and gave same to stated that to the best of his knowledge, none of the ramilies in attendance at the talk had taken advantage of the letter and sent it to North Vietnam via Moscow.

further advised he would maintain contact with the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and would

On _	7/27/70	_at Milwaukee,	Wis.	File#_	MI 100-	17068	
			62	E0 128	12-2		
by	SA			Date die	ctated	7/31/70	

. 4.

forward any information he had relating to COLIFAM immediately upon receipt.

further advised he will testify that Mrs. made a speech in which reference was made to the letters in North Vietnam, which was being administed by COLIFAM.

furnished a form letter which he indicated had been obtained from Mrs. a copy of which follows:

60 1281-67C

### NGU'O'I GÜ'I (Aldrener)

NO TEN (No	ome in full):
Số LÍNH (Se	rvice number):
NOI YÀ NGÀY	SINH (Date & place of birth):
DIA CHÍ (Ac	lgress):*
	TRẠI GIAM PHI CÔNG MỸ BỊ BẮT TẠI NƯỚC VIỆT - NAM DÂN CHỦ CỘNG HÒA
VIA MOSCOW, USS	(Comp of detention for U.S. pilots captured in the DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC of VIETNAM)
COMMITTEE OF	F LIAISON Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam
GÜI (Aldressee)	
NO TÊN (N	ame in full):
DIA CHÍ (Ac	ddress):
er form	
172 ED 18812	5
	•

i	;
	·
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
P	
	14
i .	
	•
	·
1	
Later and the second se	
	A 11
No. 1	
	10
1	MAY VIET (Dated)
■ · · ·	NORTH THE TOTAL CONTRACT CONTR
<b>1</b>	
<b>]</b>	

### CHÍ CHÚ (N.B.):

- 1. Phải viết rõ và chỉ được viết trên những đồng kế sắn (Write legibly and only on the lines).
- 2. Trong thu chi được nói về tình hình sức khỏe và tình hình gia đình (Write only about health and family).
- 3. Gia dình gửi đến cũng phải theo đúng mẫu, khuôn khỗ và quy định này (Letters from families should also conform to this proforma).

	FEDERAL BUREAU OF	- INVESTIGATION	
1		7/20 Date	0/70
recorde	The following inform of "The Milwaukee Jours s, which are kept in "The and State Streets, Mily	nal" and "Milwaukee as Milwayins Journa	Sentinel"
	A clipping from Frie kee Journal," had the fork, New York:	<b>*</b> *	
	A list compiled by t llowing five sames from ers of war in North Viet	Wisconsin who are	
Madisa	DANIEL JAMES DAUGHT: FREDERIC R. FLOM, AI GERALD LEE GERNOT, I DONALD LESTER HELIGI n. Visconsin;	ppleton, Wisconsin Buring, Wisconsin;	·
	WILLIAM JOHN METZGER		
the "M	A clipping dated Satisfaction of the state o	ished the following	970, from g information:
of the	Three men who visite Committee of Liaison as		ed members
	ENNETH KIRKPATRICK S Service Committee, Ser MARK S, PATSHRE, Pr	attle, Washington;	
of Mon	ECHERT W. PFEIFFER,	Professor of Zoole	ogy, University
	In "The Milwaukee Jo ther of GERALD LEE GERN s been contacted by the	DT, Suring, Wiscom	sin, stated
Liaiso	An article appearing Milwaukee Journal," for Beadquarters address 2nd Street, New York, N	urnished the Committee of Li	ttee for mison, 365
On 7/13/70	Nilwaukee, Wisconsi		<b>-1706</b> 8
by SA	E	D 12812	7/14/70

was listed as co-chairman, residence Riverdale, New York. Mrs. WEISS was quoted as saying letters should be addressed with prisoner's name, serial number, and words:

Camp of Detention for U.S. Pilots Captured Democratic Republic of Vietnam Moscow, Soviet Union

-1-

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

All be RER 80 12812-2

from North Vietness.

bac Dote 7/27/70

advised that she is the wife or
United States Mayy, serial number
me was been a captive of the Democratic Republic of
Vietnam (North Vietnam) for three years and two months.
She advised as follows:

She first became aware of the Committee of Liaison with Families of Servicemen detained in North Vietnam, (COLIFAM) through the news media. In March of 1970 she came in direct contact with CMLIFAM when she received a letter from the Committee signed by CORA WEISS and DAVID DELLINGER, co-chairman of the Committee. The letter indicated that she would be receiving in the Small two letters from her husband in the very near future. On April 17, 1970 after not receiving the letters from her husband she called the New York effice of COLIFAM and talked to a secretary, unidentified. The secretary indicated that a packet of 84 letters were forth coming from Hanoi, Worth Vietnam, but were not in the New York office as yet. On May 3, 1970 she received two letters from her husband via the Committee. One of the letters was addressed to Mr. and Mrs. and a Christmas card was addressed to herself. She also received on April 20, 1970, a letter from her husband which was delivered by 10 the Reverend RICHARD FERNANDEZ, who had recently returned

She received two of the letters from her husband and both were delivered on December 24, 1969 by CORA WEISS, who at that time was not a member of COLIFAM, but had also recently returned from North Vietnam.

She has discussed the Committee called COLIFAM with other wives of missing servicemen, but she is not sware of any others that have received letters via COLIFAM.

She would be willing to cooperate with the United States Department of Justice in event her testimony became necessary at a later date.

On 7/20/70 at	Wis.	File # MI 100-17068	
by SA	62c	Date dictated 7/22/70	

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

1

#### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Dore 8/6/70		 	

Lac

T.

All bre RER ED MOIL-V

was contacted at her residence by SA
where she was informed that the Federal Bureau of Investigation
(FBI) was conducting an inquiry into the activities of an
organization calling itself the Committee of Maison with
Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam and known
as COLIFAM.

Mrs. was informed that this inquiry was being conducted at the request of J. WALTER YEAGLEY, Assistant Attorney General, United States Department of Justice.

had had only one contact with the above organization and that this was in the form of a letter which she had received in reply to a letter sent to COLIFAM by herself.

Mrs. continued that she had read about the organization in the local newspaper and had addressed the letter to their New York office, requesting any information they might have concerning the status and whereabouts of her son, who was missing in action in Vietnam. She advised that this letter was addressed to them, she believed, in January of 1970.

She received by return mail a letter which she made available to SA and which reflects the following:

On8/5/70 of Wisconsin File # MI 100-17068

by SA Date dictated 8/5/70

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

### COMMITTEE OF LIMISON

### with Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam

365 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036

620

(212) 765-1490

CABLE ADDRESS:

Co-chairman Dave Pollinger Cora Voiss

Treosurer:
Mrs. Anna Sennett

Committee (in formation):
Rennie Davis

Rev. Richard Fernandes

\*Maggio-Geddes

\*StevenHalliwell
Stewart Meacham
Prof. Bea Seitzman

Ethel Taylor

\*Barbare-Webster

\*Truck Young

\*staff

February 6, 1970

6012812-2

Dear Mr. and Mrs.

Cora Weiss has asked us to answer your letter of January 20th regarding your son. I am enclosing an Information Sheet which explains what the Committee of Liaison is.

As you will see, one of the things we are doing is trying to get information on servicemen who may be prisoners in North Vietnam. Servicemen who are captured in South Vietnam are held there by the Provisional Revolutionary Government and the North Vietnamese have no information about them.

If your son was shot down over North Vietnam and you would like us to ask the North Vietnamese for information about him please send his name, service number and any details you have on when and where he was shot down. If you know of any other families in a similar situation you might want to refer them to us as well.

We understand the anxiety you must feel in not knowing about your son and hope our government will soon come to its senses and withdraw from Vietnam so that all families -- Vietnamese and American -- can be reunited. In the meantime we hope to be of help in getting information about prisoners beld in North Vietnam.

Bincerely, alberth

Barbara Webster

In addition, the letter was accompanied by a two page information sheet from COLIFAN.

Mrs informed that when she observed the names of the individuals who were on the Committee and determined that several of them were identical to individuals involved in the Chicago conspiracy trials, she ceased any contact and directed no further correspondence to COLIFAM. Since that time, she has determined from the United States Government that her son is a prisoner of war of the Vietcong but has not had any contact with him.

Mrs.

stated that she knows of no one individual by name who has had any contact with COLIFAM but does know that there are numerous families throughout the country who have contacted this group. She stated she has obtained this knowledge as she attended a nationwide meeting held May 1, 1970, at Washington, D. C., with the families of servicemen missing and prisoners of war in Vietnam. During this meeting she met numerous persons who have had contact with COLIFAM, but she could not recall their identities.

Mrs. advised she would immediately contact the FBI should she receive any future correspondence from this group.

1

## All but tex 60 12812-2

Bais 8/20/70

610

was apprised or the identity of the interviewing Agent and the purpose of the interview.

Mrs. was further advised that this interview was part of an investigation requested by J. WALTER YEAGLEY, Assistant Attorney General, and that this investigation is undertaken to develop the fact that the Committee of Liaison With Families of Servicemen Detained in Morth Vietnam (COLIFAN) is acting within the United States at the request of the Government of North Vietnam and is involved in political activity under the Foreign Agents Registration Act or as a publiciagent as described by that Act.

Mrs. stated that she has had no contact with COLIFAN or CORA WEISS or any other member of the Committee of Liaison. She further advised that she does not wish to be associated with COLIFAN.

attended a meeting at the American Red Cross, 2400 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, where a MARY WINN gave a talk on American prisoners of war in North Vietnam. At that meeting WINN made mention of COLIFAM and displayed a form letter that the North Vietnamese wished to be used by the families of servicemen to contact these servicemen in North Vietnam. Mrs. Stated that WINN did not state that she was a member of COLIFAM, but did stress the use of this form letter in contacting known prisoners in North Vietnam.

Mrs. Stated she had been contacted by KENNETH KIRKPATRICK, Peace Education Secretary for the American Friends Service Committee, Inc., 814 North East 40th Street, Seattle, Washington. KIRKPATRICK gave to Mrs. the COLIFAN list of 335 names of known prisoners of war held in Hanoi. Mrs. made this list available to the investigating Agent as well as the form letter to be used in contacting prisoners in North Vietnam as given her by Mrs. WINN.

On8/7/70at	Wisconsin File# MI 100-17068
	76
by SA	Date dictated 8/14/70

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency: it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

All hoc rea so 12812-2

MI 100-17068

620

with KIRKPATRICK by letter in which she asked him that on his next trip to North Vietnam would be please attempt to deliver a letter to her son in the event he was a prisoner of war in North Vietnam. KIRKPATRICK advised Mrs. by letter that the North Vietnamese authorities informed him that her son, was not being held by them and they had no information relating to him.

Mrs stated she would testify to all of the above. She further advised that if she received any information regarding COLIFAN she would immediately notify the Milwaukee Office of the FBI.

younger Mrs.

Air Force, San Antonio, Texas.

Mrs.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION 1 All bic AER 60 12812-2 Mr. and Mrs. Wisconsin, were apprised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the purpose of the interview. Er. and Ers. were further advised that the interview was part of an investigation requested by J. WALTER YEAGLEY, Assistant Attorney General, regarding an attempt to develop the fact that the Committee of Lizison With Families of Servicemen Detained in North Vietnam (COLIFAM) is acting within the United States at the request of the Government of Morth Vietnam and is involved in political activity under the Foreign Agents Registration Act or as a publicity agent as described by that Act. stated that his son is United States 620 and that he was shot Air Force down over North Vietnam approximately 3 years ago. Er. stated that his son is married to Mrs. and they have three children: Mrs. and the children are residing in stated that the

handling all matters for prisoners of war and contacts concerning the prisoners of war should be directed to him.

regarding her nusband. All information regarding the younger

does not wish to be contacted by anyone

should be directed to Colonel LUTER, United States

by COLIFAM. Contact was in the form of a letter signed by CORA WEISS, dated pril 7, 1970. Irs. stated the original is in the possession of but she had made a copy of this letter, which she made available to the investigating Agent.

son have been received at Wisconsin, and subsequently have been forwarded to the younger

Mrs. Stated that one letter arrived by itself; however, two other letters arrived after they had been sent

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

to New York. A cover letter with the following note was attached:

"May 13, 1970

"Dear Friend,

"Today we received two packages of letters which we have been expecting from prisoners held in North Vietnam. The total number of letters in both packages was 156. Although the packages were mailed a month apart, they both arrived today. We are very happy to send herewith a letter addressed to you.

"Sincerely

"Barbara Webster"

Again, Mr. and Mrs. stressed the point that the originals of all correspondence are now in the hands of the younger

Mr. and Mrs. stated that they would be willing to testify to all that has transpired and would, if they received any further contact from COLIFAM, contact the FBI.

A copy of the letter from CORA WEISS, dated April 7, 1970, follows:

(212)765-149

CABLE ADDRESS: Coling an

April 7, 1970

Co-obaciman

Dear Mrs.

620

Day Dellinger -Compared to 188

confirmation of 81 more servicemen being held to 12/2-7 in North Vietnam. By now you should have

Aron ' r: Mar. Anne Bennett

heard that

is on this list. The North Vietnamese have Committee: Richard J. Farnettnow confirmed thorugh the Committee of Liaison a total of 335 men being held. Rennie Davis Madeline Duckles

Prof. Richard falls This notification also means that a letter Rov. Richard Fernandez

The enclosed release Top 12 philiprachiter : is en route from him. explains how mail is forwarded via our #Maggior Geddes office. Because mail from Hanoi is very Steve Halliwell

Prof. Donald Kalish slow we cannot be sure when the letter will Stewart Meacham

Prof. Bea Seitzmancome, but we will forward it as soon as it arrives here. Prof. Franz Schurmann

Ethel Taylor # Barbara Webster Srudi Young

We are very pleased to be able to perform this service and hope that you will feel free to be in touch with us should you have any questions.

\* staff

At the same time, we are continuing to work towards the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. troups from Southeast Asia so that soon all families, American and Vietnamese, can be united again.

Sincerely.

Cora Weiss Dave Dellinger

P. S. Kindly excuse the mimeographed letter, but there are many families to reach at the same time.

#### INFORMATION SHEET

### Functions of the Committee

The Committee of Liaison seeks to facilitate communication between servicemen imprisoned in North Vietnam and their families in the United States. The Committee receives letters from servicemen and forwards them to the families through the domestic mails. It also forwards letters to North Vietnam at the request of families. Families are of course, still free to send letters directly but should not the correct address for both letters and packages:

Name of serviceman, serial number Camp of Detention of 'U.S. Pilots Captures in the D.V.R. Hanoi, Democratic Republic of Vietnam via Moscow, U.S.S.R.

Captured servicemen may receive one letter a month and one package (not over six pounds in weight) every other month. The Committee does not forward packages. It is suggested that letters sent to the Committee for forwarding be sealed and that stamps be enclosed (not affixed) as letters are forwarded in packets.

The Committee is only able to be of help with respect to men who have been shot down overy North Vietnam.

The Committee also is able to request information regarding the status of men thought to have been shot down over North Vietnam and captured there. For such inquiries the Committee needs to have the individual's service number, and any available information as to when and where he was shot down. With respect to such requests the Committee would expect to receive a letter to his family if the individual is being held in North Vietnam. If the individual is known to be dead or if the North Vietnamese have no information regarding him, the Committee expects to receive that word to the extent possible. In any case the Committee will communicate with the family concerned as soon as it receives word. In this way we expect that as Xuan Thuy, head of the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris, has said, gradually all families of servicemen held in North Vietnam will hear from their relatives.

#### Background

The Committee of Liaison has been established in response to an initiative created by the North Vietnamese and is an extension of previous efforts. It is not in any sense representing the government of North Vietnam.

Since 1965 there have been a number of meetings between people of Vietnam (from both the North and the National Liberation Front of South Vietnam) and Americans who oppose the war. On three separate occasions representatives of the American anti-war movement have gone to Hanoi and have returned with released servicemen. On one occasion an American peace activist went to Phnom Penh, Cambodia, to receive three American soldiers who were released by the National Liberation Front. Americans visiting Hanoi have frequently carried letters to captured servicemen at the request of their families and they have brought back letters when they have returned to the United States. On several occasions such visitors from the peace movement have met with captured pilots in Hanoi.

#### The Committee

The state of the state of

The Committee of Liaison believes that the safe return of U.S. servicemen captured in North Vietnam and the half-million others that the United States maintains in South Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and aboard naval vessets can only come with a decision on the part of the U.S. government to completely withdraw from Vietnam. Because of this conviction, we who are serving on this Committee will also continue our efforts aimed at the immediate and complete withdrawal of all U.S. armed forces and weapons.

As individuals Committee members are active in a variety of organizations and groups committed to ending the war: the New Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam, The Conspiracy, Clergy and Laymen Concerned About Vietnam, U.S. Inter-religious Committee on Peace, Fellowship of Reconciliation, Newsreel, Women Against Daddy Warbucks, Lawyers Committee on Vietnam, and Women Strike for Peace.

The Committee of Liaison is entirely dependent on donations from individuals and organizations, and welcomes any gifts to sustain its work.